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WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL ON MILITARY SPENDING

CTK Report

LD052049 Prague CTK in English 2017 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Bucharest (CTK) [No date as received] -- The Warsaw Treaty member states proposed today to the NATO member states to convene preparatory consultations, attended by all countries of the two blocs, to agree on the beginning of talks on bilateral non-increasing of military expenditures and their later lowering. The proposal was attached to a memorandum, presented at the Romanian Foreign Ministry here today to representatives of the Embassies of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, The Federal Republic of Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and the United States. The documents will also be handed to the Embassies of Iceland and Luxembourg.

The lowering of military expenditures would effectively contribute to the halting of the arms race and the transition to disarmament, while means thus released could be dedicated to the needs of social and economic development, also of the developing countries. These efforts must be joined by all states, mainly those with huge military potentials such as the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member states.

The aim of the proposal is to strengthen international security and peace and to improve the political atmosphere in Europe and the world over.

Prague Outlines Proposal

LD052315 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 2200 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] A memorandum agreed between the Warsaw Treaty member-states was delivered at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania in Bucharest to representatives of the Embassies of Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, the FRG, Portugal, Greece, Spain, Turkey and the United States, in which the Warsaw Treaty member-states propose to the NATO member-states the holding of talks on not increasing and on reducing military spending. The documents will be delivered at the same time to the Embassies of Iceland and Luxembourg through the Romanian Embassy in London and in Brussels.

As a supplement to the proposals contained in the Prague declaration of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee, and in the Moscow declaration from the meeting of the highest party and state officials of seven socialist countries, the Warsaw Pact member-states propose the following possible steps for solving the problem of reducing military expenditure: on the basis of mutual example, to implement a small symbolic one-time reduction of the military budget of the Warsaw Pact member-states and the NATO member-states, followed by a freeze of these budgets for approximately 3 years; at the same time, to reduce the military budgets of the Warsaw Pact member-states and NATO member-states which possess nuclear weapons by a previously agreed sum. They further propose to reduce the military budgets of the Warsaw Pact member-states and the NATO member-states and the NATO member-states, in connection with the realization of concrete disarmament measures which could be worked out during disarmament talks, and to mutually agree on the implementation of maximum ceiling for military budgets on a level lower than the existing one.

The Warsaw Pact member-states consider that talks should begin as soon as possible. They suggest that preparatory consultations should take place on an equal basis at a working level, so that it would be possible to agree on the goals, date, and place of the talks and the level of participation.

The Warsaw Pact member-states express hope that the NATO governments will carefully study the proposal for organizing talks on not increasing and on reducing military spending.

Budapest Account

LD052241 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] The Warsaw Pact has made further proposals that reaffirm and complement its initiative that the Warsaw Pact and NATO should freeze and then reduce their military expenditure. The proposal recalls the statements issued last year, in which the Warsaw Pact suggested that talks on the reduction of military expenditure should be started without delay.

The current proposal comes forward with the suggestion that as a first practical step the member-states of both military alliances should make a small, symbolic reduction in their military expenditures and then keep spending at this lower level for 3 years. After this the members of the two military alliances that have nuclear weapons would agree to reduce simultaneously their military expenditure by a certain percentage of their gross national products. This would be followed by further practical disarmament measures, which would bring about a further reduction of military spending. Finally, the Warsaw Pact proposes that an upper limit on military spending, which would be lower than current levels, should be agreed. To prepare all these agreements, the Warsaw Pact proposes that talks be held at which every member of both alliance systems would be present.

On the basis of an agreement between the members of the Warsaw Pact, a document about these proposals has been forwarded by the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the NATO member-states.

Warsaw Report

LD052230 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] In Bucharest today, in accordance with an agreement of the Warsaw Pact member-states, the ambassadors of Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Spain, Holland, Canada, Norway, Portugal, the FRG, the United States, Turkey, Great Britain and Italy were given an aide-memoire together with an enclosed Warsaw Pact proposal to the NATO states concerning negotiations on a nonincrease and a reduction in military spending.

The Warsaw Pact member-states propose to the NATO countries that preliminary consultations take place with the participation of all member-countries of the two alliances. These would aim at entering into an agreement concerning the start of negotiations on the mutual nonincrease of military spending and on its reduction. In conditions of increased international tension, a reduction in spending for military purposes would effectively contribute to halting the arms race and moving toward disarmament, and, at the same time, the financial means released in such a way could be used for the needs of socioeconomic development of developing countries.

Warsaw Comments

LD052253 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2210 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] How to relax international tensions? How to liven up the dialogue between East and West? Such questions are frequently posed by the media all over the world.

Today this question was answered by the Warsaw Pact countries, which proposed negotiations with NATO on the subject of not increasing and subsequently reducing military expenditure.

The Warsaw Pact countries, aide-memoire on this matter envisages at first carrying out a small, somewhat symbolic, reduction in military budgets and then freezing these budgets for 3 years. After this, more significant reductions in budgets would be undertaken by states that have nuclear weapons, and next negotiations would start to agree on maximum ceilings for military budgets, which would be at a lower level than at present.

In our programs we have frequently spoken about the great burden armaments pose to societies and how many disasters such as starvation or disease could be reversed if only just a part of military expenditure went to civilian aims. Let us add that such expenditure already amounts to $800 billion per year. Therefore, the Warsaw Pact's new proposals open the possibility of reducing inflated military budgets, and create a chance to direct money thus saved to the needs of communities.

One more comment: Very often Western statesmen speak about dialogue and the need for it at a negotiating table with the Soviet Union. One could say that an opportunity for this has now been created.

ADN Report

LD052358 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2301 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin, 5 Mar (ADN) -- In accordance with an agreement between the Warsaw Pact member-states, the Foreign Ministry of the Romanian Socialist Republic today handed to the diplomatic representatives of the NATO member-states -- Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Great Britain, Iceland, Italy, Canada, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and the United States -- an aide-memoire in connection with a "proposal of the Warsaw Pact member-states to the NATO member-states regarding talks on the question of not increasing and reducing military spending.

Bucharest Report

AU060801 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0500 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania has conveyed to the diplomatic representatives of the NATO member-states a proposal from the Warsaw Pact member-states concerning negotiations aimed at freezing and reducing military spending.

TANJUG Notes Proposal

LD061037 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0910 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, March 6 (TANJUG) -- The Warsaw Treaty has handed a memorandum to all NATO member countries offering negotiations on reductions in this year's military budgets, it was officially announced here yesterday evening (Monday). The proposal, contained in the January 5, 1983, Prague declaration, was yesterday repeated in the form of a memorandum distributed in Bucharest to the ambassadors of the NATO members. The Warsaw Treaty nations suggest that members of both blocs meet as soon as possible and on a working level to make a start on preparations for a meeting on cutting back their military expenditures. Moscow attaches great significance to the renewed initiative as a "new proof of the good-will and efforts" of the Warsaw Treaty to establish "any dialogue" with a view to overcoming the crisis in the relationship between the two military blocs.

RABOTNICHESKO DELO EDITORIAL ON CHERNENKO SPEECH

AU051642 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 4 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Soviet Policy -- Realism and Perspective"]

[Text] The speech given by Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on Friday [2 March] to an audience of Moscow voters at the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses crowned the vigorous and very essential political activity which precedes the election of the new membership of the USSR Supreme Soviet. This meeting, the important programmatic importance of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko's speech, and the unreserved approval of the speech by all workers in the country's material and spiritual realms expressed the giant dimensions of the creative sociohistoric principle which determines the constant progress of Soviet society.

When the CPSU, through its leaders, turns to the people, it is always in a frank, analytical, and friendly talk on tasks already fulfilled and those that are forthcoming, tasks related to constantly perfecting the society of mature socialism and utilizing insufficiently utilized possibilities for achieving the supreme goal of the party and state -- to constantly improve the working people's material and spiritual well-being. The speech given by Comrade Konstantin Chernenko has all the characteristics of the essential and politically charged principles of Soviet, socialist democracy. It is precisely this feature that makes it a political speech of great national and international importance.

The CPSU Central Committee general secretary presented to his constituency and the entire Soviet people a report on what has been done in all areas of public life since the last USSR Supreme Soviet elections. This report is not simply optimistic. It shows that despite lapses and weaknesses, the country's national economy is developing in total accord with the party's economic strategy; it has overcome the difficulties which have emerged and is constantly accelerating the tempo of its creative activity. Comrade Konstantin Chernenko did not cite a broad range of numbers and data, but they are sufficient to indicate the ascending line along which the further construction of the branches essential to the country's economic structure is developing.

Soviet society is steadily marching forward, because its ascending development is determined by a CPSU social program formulated with Marxist-Leninist insight. It knows no stagnation and has permanent possibilities for self-improvement because it is based on the strenuous, constructive, and creative work of the Soviet people. The citizens now fully have all those dominant characteristics of people who not only conscientiously implement their immediate working obligations, but also patiently cherish the general all-state causes, place general interests above everything else, and actively defend them.

Soviet political life is now more than ever characterized by the monolithic cohesion of the people around the domestic and international policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state. This is one of the most remarkable and bright manifestations of the Soviet way of life and a characteristic of the Socialist democratic system. It turns the forecast of the results of the forthcoming elections for the USSR Supreme Soviet into a very easy one, because the results will undoubtedly turn into a new and general demonstration of this cohesion.

This policy, class and revolutionary in its profound essence, is based on the steady principle of socialist humanism. This is the strong and vitally historic root of the foreign policy of the CPSU and the USSR, characterized by deep peace-loving purposefulness.

In his speech Comrade Konstantin Chernenko outlined the topical goals and tasks of its general line. He categorically and clearly stressed the steady adherence of the USSR to the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems as the only realistic foundation of justly constructing the comprehensive system of international relations.

Analyzing today's alarming international situation, he pointed out the main factors guilty of kindling hotbeds and the causes of tension and of intensifying the arms race and the danger of a fatal nuclear confrontation. These factors are well known -- the Washington administration, NATO, and the circles of international imperialism which have not learned any historic lessons and do not want to see the truth that the world cannot and will not develop in their favor. Their aggressive plans are blocked ever more effectively by the increasing economic and defensive power of the countries of real socialism, led by the USSR, the strengthening positions of the nonaligned countries, and the powerful movement of all progressive and peace-loving forces.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Chernenko, outlined many proposals that can and must become norms for constructing relations between the nuclear countries as the only way of normalizing the present alarming world situation; their application in action would favorably influence its future development. These proposals have great importance, and it is not by chance that they were received with war approval by the broadest circles of the world public. Their importance will be fortified by the results of today's elections for the USSR Supreme Soviet, because millions of Soviet voters will go to the polling stations with the awareness that they are casting a vote in support of their homeland's future progress and simultaneously for a peaceful world. Those are the supreme humane goals of the realistic, perspective policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

ZHIVKOV INAUGURATES NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Leaders Attend Ceremony

AU021919 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the 1,300th anniversary of the Bulgarian state, one of the most impressive buildings in Sofia's center -- the Court Palace -- has been reconstructed and turned into the National Museum of History. Today the museum was festively inaugurated. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council; Comrades Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Yordan Yotov, Milko Balev, Ognyan Doynov, Pencho Kubadinski, Petur Mladenov, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Todor Bozhinov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Andrey Lukanov, Georgi Atanasov, Georgi Yordanov, Grigor Stoichkov, Dimitur Stoyanov, Petur Dyulgerov, Stanish Bonev, Vasil Tsanov, Georgi Zarev [as heard], and Emil Khristov; deputy chairmen of the State Council; BCP Central Committee department heads; leaders of public and mass-political organizations; and noted figures of our socialist culture.

Zhivkov Speaks

AU051523 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 3 Mar 84 p 1

[Speech given by Todor Zhivkov, BPC Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the State Council, at the 2 March inauguration of the National Museum of History in Sofia]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades:

I inaugurate Bulgaria's National Museum of History with well understood emotion. This major institute of history is a new and great achievement of our socialist culture and of contemporary museum science and a new expression of the BCP's concern and its consistent April line.

The impressive museum reveals the historic processes of our ancient land -- the cradle of the destinies and civilizations of peoples and of heroic struggles for national and social progress.

This building -- itself a remarkable monument of Bulgarian architecture -- displays unique exhibits and documents from ancient times, the time of the Thraces, the pre-Bulgarians and Slavs, the Middle Ages, the stormy epoch after the resurrection, and from our national liberation.

The tools and articles of stones, metal, gold, and wood; the original Bulgarian inscriptions; sculpture, ikon-making and wood-carving articles; ancient books; and precious documents confirms the great historic truth that our land has been populated by a vital, diligent, gifted, and proud people.

We, the citizens of socialist Bulgaria, can witness the achievements of an original civilization created by our people, at a complex and difficult time, through work and constant struggle for progress and with a sharp sense for beauty and goodness.

The inauguration of the National Museum of History is first of all an opportunity again to pay respect to the creativity of our forefathers, to what has been created by the eternally glorious Bulgarian people, their work and struggle, to immortal democratic and revolutionary traditions, to diligence, historic optimism, internationalism, and peace-loving and inexhaustibly creative and constructive spirit and genius.

The inauguration of the Museum of History is a national continuation of all-people celebration of the 1,300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian state which widely resounded throughout the world. It demonstrated once again how important for us is the scientifically analyzed class-party evaluation of the past. We include in the treasury of our socialist culture everything valuable and progressive created by the Bulgarian people and by mankind. We, as repeatedly stressed in the past, are alien to any nihilism or idealization of separate historic phenomena. However, as we have repeatedly stressed, we are proud of our national history and will reverently guard it.

Comrades, the collective of the National Museum of History, whose rich exposition we are inaugurating, faces hard work in order to properly display in the museum's halls the struggle of our people against capitalism and fascism and the years of socialist construction.

I believe that the museum will multiply its treasures and will develop into a major center of research. It will house everything material and spiritual created by the Bulgarian people throughout their 1,300-year history.

I believe that the National Museum of History will be a school of patriotism and communist education of the working people and youth.

I congratulate the creators of the National Museum of History -- historians, architects, painters, and builders -- and gladly declare it open.

Congratulations on the opening of the National Museum of History, dear comrades.

HUSAK RECEIVES CUBAN INTERIOR MINISTER MENENDEZ

LD051209 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1130 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic, received in Prague Castle today Ramiro Valdes Menendez, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, deputy chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers and minister of interior of the Republic of Cuba, who is in Czechoslovakia on an official, working visit. In a cordial and friendly discussion both representatives agreed in highly appreciating the level of Czechoslovak-Cuban relations and the endeavor to further develop and intensify mutual contacts in the interest of the people of both countries and strengthening peace and socialism.

HUSAK RECEIVES OFFICIAL ETHIOPIAN VISITOR

AU051155 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 3 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Prague, 2 Mar (CTK) -- Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary and CSSR president, received this Friday [2 March] at Prague Castle Fisseha Desta, member of the Commission for the Organization of the Party of Working People of Ethiopia (COPWE) Executive Committee and deputy secretary general of the Provincial Military Administrative Council, who is on an official visit to the CSSR.

Fisseha Desta presented Comrade Husak with a personal message from Mengistu Haile Mariam, COPWE chairman, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army of Socialist Ethiopia, and informed Comrade Husak of the results of the Seventh Plenum of the COPWE Central Committee and the Ethiopian people's efforts to mark the 10th anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution and the constitutional congress of the Ethiopian workers' party in a dignified manner.

Comrade Husak thanked F. Desta for the message presented to him, evaluated the successes achieved by the Ethiopian people in accomplishing the basic social and economic transformations in Ethiopia, and affirmed the Czechoslovak people's full support for and solidarity with the Ethiopian revolution and the efforts exerted in Socialist Ethiopia for economic and cultural advances.

Both representatives expressed deep gratification over the development of mutual relations to date and stated that cooperation between the two countries is developing fully in keeping with the principles of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation Between the CSSR and Socialist Ethiopia signed at the end of the negotiations conducted by top representatives in Addis Ababa in 1981.

Assessing international problems, the two representatives resolutely condemned the aggressive policy of imperialist circles directed against the interests of people on all continents, and stressed the necessity to exert every effort for establishing an atmosphere of trust, halting feverish armament, preserving and consolidating detente, and strengthening peaceful cooperation throughout the world.

The reception was attended by Frantisek Salda, head of the CSSR President's Office; and by Berhanu Jember, ambassador of Socialist Ethiopia to the CSSR.

During the Ethiopian delegation's stay in the CSSR, negotiations were conducted on the premises of the CPCZ Central Committee. They were headed by Vasil Bilak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. The Ethiopian comrades briefed him on the progress of preparations for founding the first Marxist-Leninist party in Ethiopia. The two sides exchanged opinions on and experience in the sphere of the formation of a party and on the development of the party as the leading force in building a socialist society.

The negotiations were also attended by Vladimir Blechta, CPCZ Central Committee department head, and by Michal Stefanak, CPCZ Central Committee deputy department head.

The Ethiopian delegation was also received on Friday by Vladimir Vedra, deputy chairman of the Federal Assembly's Chamber of Nations and chairman of its paramilitary and security committee. In a comradely, cordial talk the delegation was briefed on the role and activity of the CSSR's Federal Assembly.

ROHLICEK RECEIVES POLAND'S KOMENDER 2 MARCH

LD021728 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1400 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Rudolf Rohlicek, deputy federal premier, today in Prague received Zenon Komender, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers and PAX chairman, who is currently visiting Czechoslovakia. The two representatives discussed a number of questions concerning the development of mutual relations between the two countries. They praised the results achieved in deepening cooperation, in the economic sphere in particular, and discussed themes related to broadening cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Poland in the future.

COMMUNIQUE: BILAK'S GREEK VISIT, TALKS WITH KKE

AU051206 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 1 Mar 84 pp 1, 7

["Joint Communique" on 26-29 February visit to Greece by a CPCZ delegation led by Vasil Bilak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and Central Committee secretary]

[Text] Following an invitation from the Greek Communist Party [KKE] Central Committee, a CPCZ Central Committee delegation visited Greece 26-29 February. On 27 February, talks were held in Athens between the KKE delegation, headed by Central Committee Secretary General Kharilaos Florakis, and the CPCZ delegation, headed by Vasil Bilak, Presidium member and Central Committee secretary. On the CPCZ side, the talks were also attended by Miroslav Slavik, CPCZ Central Committee member and leading secretary of the South Bohemia CPCZ Regional Committee, and Radoslav Klein and Jaromir Zak, deputy heads of CPCZ Central Committee departments. On the KKE side, the talks were also attended by Dimitrios Gondihas, Central Committee Political Bureau member and Secretary of the Athens party organization; Kostas Loules, Central Committee member; Zinon Zorzovilis, Central Committee member; and Andonis Skilakos, Central Committee alternate member and secretary of the Thessalia regional party organization.

During the talks, the two sides briefed each other on developments within their respective parties and countries; the two sides also made an assessment of further possibilities to deepen cooperation between the two brotherly parties. They also exchanged views on current affairs in the international situation and the international communist and workers movement.

The KKE delegation briefed the Czechoslovak comrades on the party's struggle in defending the interests of the working people against the consequences of the economic crisis. The KKE delegation also briefed them on the Greek people's struggle for Greece's withdrawal from NATO and the EEC of monopolies; the removal of all U.S.-NATO bases from its territory; and the rallying of all progressive forces in the struggle for true change, people's democracy, and socialism.

The CPCZ delegation expressed high appreciation for the heroic, principled, and long struggle -- filled with sacrifices -- of the Greek Communists, the ardent patriots in the interests of the Greek working people. It expressed admiration for the efforts the Greek Communists are exerting in the peace movement where, jointly with other progressive and democratic forces, they are struggling actively to avert a nuclear war and to attain disarmament. Czechoslovak Communists deeply respect the KKE, which is guided as a party in its actions by the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletariat internationalism, and from positions of principles contributes positively toward strengthening the unity of the international communist and workers movement.

The CPCZ delegation informed the Greek comrades of the Czechoslovak people's achievements under the guidance of the CPCZ during the building of socialism. It also recalled that during these very days of February 36 years ago the Czechoslovak working people, united in one body, decided to take the path to socialism and thus created the basic prerequisite for the present successes.

The KKE delegation expressed its appreciation for the Czechoslovak working people's achievements in realizing the CPCZ 16th Congress decisions toward building the developed socialist society and deepening socialist democracy. It also expressed its appreciation for the peace-loving policy of Socialist Czechoslovakia and its constant contribution to the people's common struggle against the danger of a war and for a peaceful future for mankind.

With serious concern both sides have appraised the current international situation as being aggravated by the aggressive forces of world imperialism, headed by the most reactionary U.S. circles. The essence of their new doctrines is the endeavor to win military supremacy over the USSR and other socialist countries and the effort to negotiate from a position of strength. The greatest concentration of these dangerous efforts appeared in Europe. In accordance with U.S. militaristic plans, medium-range U.S. missiles have been installed on the territory of three West European countries -- something that has seriously disturbed the existing military-strategic balance in Europe, thereby increasing the danger of a nuclear conflict. This policy is contrary to the European people's vital interests. The KKE fully understands the military countermeasures that the Warsaw Pact states had to take to ensure their own defense and security, to preserve the balance of forces, which aims to safeguard peace on our continent. Both sides set off from the fact that only the preservation of a military balance between the two social systems can help avoid a nuclear catastrophe. Along with this the two sides are continuously struggling to keep this balance at a lower level. They appreciate the Soviet efforts to conclude a fair agreement with the United States in order to limit nuclear means for the purpose of freeing Europe from all medium-range, or tactical nuclear arms.

They emphasize that in all disarmament negotiations the principle of equality and equal security should be respected. They also attach major importance to the Warsaw Pact proposals that are included in the Prague declaration of the Political Advisory Committee of January 1983, and particular importance to the proposal for the conclusion of an agreement among the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries to avoid mutual use of force and to develop peaceful relations.

Both sides referred to the peaceful traditions of both the Czechoslovak and the Greek people. They expressed their deep conviction that only a policy of detente and peaceful coexistence guarantees the European people's future. In this connection, the Czechoslovak delegation praised Greece's effort for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans as well as other peace initiatives by the Greek Government. The KKE and the CPCZ are in favor of the contribution by the current Stockholm conference to the taking of concrete measures toward the strengthening of confidence among states and the relaxation of military tension.

Both sides greatly appreciate the growing activities of the broad anti-war movement and they are determined to continue contributing with all their power to the predominant desire of people to live and work in peace.

Both sides denounced the U.S. policy in the Near and Middle East. The gunboat policy, the policy of aggression and blackmail, has again become part of the official U.S. strategy. They voiced support for the Palestinian people's inalienable right to create their own state, and for the struggle of the progressive Lebanese forces against local and foreign reaction, and for a free, united, and independent Lebanon.

The two sides gave particular attention to the developments in the Cyprus situation. They denounced resolutely the illegal unilateral declaration of the so-called Turkish State [as published] of Northern Cyprus. They expressed the conviction that a comprehensive settlement of problems on the island is feasible only on the basis of the UN resolutions, namely, on the basis of respect for the territorial integrity, independence, nonalignment, and demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus. They also expressed their solidarity with the Cypriot people's just struggle.

Both sides affirmed jointly the increased aggressiveness of imperialism also in other parts of the world, and in particular in Central America. Thus they expressed their full support for and solidarity with the people's struggle for national liberation, consolidation of their independence, freedom and progress, and against imperialism, neocolonialism, and racism.

The KKE and CPCZ stand firmly in support of further consolidating unity within the international communist and workers movement, strengthening the irreplaceable role of this movement in the struggle to safeguard world peace and avert a nuclear war, as well as in support of socialism and social progress.

The meeting of the two party delegations was held in a cordial and comradely atmosphere with full identity of views on all the questions discussed. The CPCZ delegation's visit confirmed that there prevails between KKE and CPCZ mutual trust, respect, and ideological unity based on the faith in Marxism-Leninism and proletariat internationalism. Both sides expressed the desire to mutually develop further and deepen their brotherly cooperation to the benefit of the Greek and Czechoslovak people, the preservation of world peace, and to the benefit of progress and socialism.

During the [CPCZ] delegation's visit in Greece, Comrade Bilak spoke at the Sporting Club gathering of the KKE's Athens party organization cadres as well as at a gathering of the Crete party organization cadres.

At the end of the meeting, the heads of the two delegations signed a protocol for further cooperation between the CPCZ and KKE.

AFGHAN OFFICIAL MEETS PRESS, CONCLUDES VISIT

AU051228 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 3 Mar 84 p 2

["(JV)"-signed report: "The Construction Tasks of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan"]

[Text] Prague, 2 Mar -- Bareq Shaf'i, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] and deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the National Fatherland Front, who is head of the front's delegation currently visiting the CSSR, spoke this Friday at a press conference on current developments in Afghanistan and on the tasks of the country's revolutionary construction. Among other things, B. Shaf'i stated that international imperialism, headed by the United States, continues the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA]. He appraised highly the assistance that is being granted to the Afghan people by the Soviet Union and by other socialist countries, including the CSSR.

He also dealt with the DRA's relations with Pakistan and Iran. In the issues related to Afghanistan-Pakistan relations, the DRA Government proceeds not only from the fact that relations between the two countries are those of two neighbors, but also from the fact that Pakistan is the springboard of imperialist and counterrevolutionary forces against the DRA. Pakistan's military government is fully subordinated to Washington, and is unwilling to undertake anything without Washington's approval. In this issue the Afghan Government has adopted a principled stance, expressed in the proposals of May 1980 and August 1981, as well as in other initiatives. "We would like either direct contacts with both Pakistan and Iran -- or a tripartite conference. The DRA's Government has proposed this several times; but the Pakistani reaction wants to prevent such meetings, in the spirit of Reagan's directives."

In connection with the indirect DRA-Pakistan negotiations, B. Shaf'i stated that the DRA is striving for neighborly relations with Pakistan; but this is being prevented by Islamabad's unceasing interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. "The United States does not want the indirect negotiations to achieve success," he stated. He added that another round of the negotiations is to take place this April, in the presence of UN representatives.

With regard to Afghan-Iranian relations, B. Shaf'i stated that the Afghan leadership is purposefully pursuing the policy of noninterference. "We in the DRA have never declared that we would become the exporters of the revolution. But we hear that others are proclaiming that their revolution is exemplary."

B. Shaf'i also spoke about the tasks of the DRA's National Patriotic Front, which assists the party in the revolutionary construction in the country and is winning the broadest masses of working people for the ideas of the Afghan revolution. The front is founded on the principle of collective and individual membership. Its collective members consist of 15 organizations -- the organizations of youth; of journalists, writers, and poets; of tribes; and so forth. The front's membership base now has more than 600,000 members.

Shaf'i, Delegation Depart

LD031604 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1300 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] A delegation of the Afghan National Fatherland Front, led by Bareq Shaf'i, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and deputy chairman of the Afghan National Fatherland Front, has left by air for Afghanistan. The delegation visited Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the National Front Central Committee.

COMMUNIQUE ON SWISS LABOR PARTY DELEGATION VISIT

AU051117 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Feb 84 p 2

["Communique" issued in Prague on 28 February at the end of the visit of a Swiss Labor Party delegation to the CSSR]

[Text] Prague, 28 Feb (CTK) -- A Swiss Labor Party delegation consisting of Hans-Joerg Hofer, member of the party's Politburo and Secretariat, and Pierre Gueniat, member of the Politburo, paid a visit to the CSSR from 20 to 25 February 1984, following an invitation from the CPCZ Central Committee.

During its stay, the delegation was received by Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and Jozef Lenart, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee.

In meetings with representatives of party and state bodies as well as representatives of the Czechoslovak Peace Committee, the delegation acquainted itself with the measures taken and the results achieved by the people of the CSSR, under the CPCZ's leadership, in building an advanced socialist society and defending peace.

The Swiss Labor Party delegation provided information on the party's work aimed at defending the interests of the Swiss working people and reinforcing the country's peace movement.

The talks included a broad exchange of opinions on the present international situation.

The two sides condemned the policy of reactionary imperialist circles, especially of those in the United States, aimed at gaining military-strategic supremacy. This policy escalates the arms race, further exacerbates tension, and constitutes a genuine threat of war.

In this connection the two sides stressed the necessity of halting this destructive and dangerous arms race, renewing trust among states, and making a resolute transition toward reducing armament and toward disarmament, especially in the area of nuclear weapons. This especially applies to Europe, where it is necessary to put an end to the stockpiling of nuclear weapons and to embark on a path leading to eliminating all such weapons, whether tactical or medium-range, from the European Continent. That is why both sides support proposals to set up nuclear-free zones in Europe.

The two sides reject the policy of feverish armament and confrontation and express the conviction that the policy of detente and peaceful coexistence is the only sound alternative capable of saving mankind from a catastrophe.

They voiced the conviction that the specific peace proposals and initiatives put forward by the states of the Warsaw Pact represent a solid base for attaining these goals. The two sides also expressed great appreciation for the activity of peace and antiwar forces and stressed the need to contribute comprehensively to further enhancing the activity of the peace movement in the struggle against the danger of a nuclear war. They also expressed their parties' solidarity with all nations fighting for independence, freedom, democracy, and social progress.

At the close of their talks, which were conducted in a fraternal atmosphere, the two sides expressed the wish to further develop and intensify mutual relations in the interest of peace, progress, and socialism.

LENART PAYS WORKING VISIT TO E. SLOVAK REGION

LD051208 Prague Domestic Service in Czeck and Slovak 1100 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Jozef Lenart, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, has arrived in the East Slovak region today for a working visit. From the Kosice airport he went to the national enterprise Chemko in Strazske. He will also visit the national enterprise Bukoza in Vranov and Toplou.

CORRECTION TO DINNER HONORS STROUGAL

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Dinner Honors Strougal," under the headline "Strougal Visits India, Holds Talks With Gandhi," published in the 22 February Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page D 4, third paragraph, lines seven to eleven:

...a worldwide catastrophe. Czechoslovakia, with its allies, has adopted a number of measures, following several warnings, having, among other things, deployed operational tactical missiles on its territory for the purpose of its security, as well as the security of the fraternal countries, as the answer to the threat of the U.S. medium-range missiles which are aimed at us from a direction from where we have been repeatedly threatened for 1,000 years. [Ceskoslovensko spolu se svymi spojenci po nekolika varovanich prijalo radu opatreni a mezi jinym i rozmistilo na svem uzemi operacne-takticke rakety k zajisteni sve bezpecnosti a bezpecnosti bratrskych zemi v odpoved na hrozbu Americkych raket stredniho doletu ktere na nas miri ze smeru odkud po tisic let jsme opakovane ohrozovani.]

As Comrade Lubomir... (rewording, supplying vernacular)

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO IRAQ -- The Czechoslovak delegation left for Baghdad today for the sixth session of the Standing Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Iraq. The committee will evaluate the possibilities leading to the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. Our delegation is headed by the chairman of the Czechoslovak part of the committee, Leopold Ler, federal minister of finance. [Text] [Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1430 GMT 28 Feb 84 LD]

ENVOY TO PORTUCAL -- Milan Micousek, the CSSR's new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Portugal, presented his credentials to Portugal's President Antonio dos Santos Ramalho Eanes on 29 February in Lisbon. [Summary] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 1 Mar 84 p 7 AU]

NEW PLO REPRESENTATIVE -- Sami 'Abd al-Fattah, the PLO's new extraordinary representative to the CSSR, arrived in Prague on 29 February. He was welcomed at the airport by Vilem Pardubsky, deputy head of diplomatic protocol at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Text] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 1 Mar 84 p 2 AU]

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ON CHERNENKO SPEECH, RESPONSE

LD051243 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0940 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin, 5 Mar (ADN) -- Here follows the text of the editorial, published in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND on Monday on the latest speech by Konstantin Chernenko:

From Moscow, the call has gone out to everyone all over the world to steer the course of events toward strengthening peace, limiting the arms race, and developing international cooperation. Efforts toward this must be redoubled and even tripled. Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, gave this answer to the burning questions that all the peoples are asking when he spoke to Moscow voters over the weekend in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. He is voicing the concerns of millions of people when he points to the growing criticism of Washington's warlike policy and says: "The people want peace and tranquillity, not war hysteria." For this precise reason, the significant statement by the supreme representative of the Soviet Union has evoked a strong response.

In the speech of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the indissoluble unity of socialism and peace has once again been expressed, a unity which more and more determines developments in our age. In some detail, he paid tribute to the great achievements of the Soviet people and the important positive changes in the life of the country achieved by the CPSU Central Committee and Politburo under the leadership of Yuriy Andropov. Konstantin Chernenko assessed them as weighty political assets which must be protected and increased. He outlined the great tasks that still have to be solved in shaping the developed socialist society. In order to implement the resolutions of the 26th party congress, the land of the soviets needs peace, and with every step foward it will also strengthen peace more.

Konstantin Chernenko's speech, which was broadcast directly by television and published in full in the press, was received with endorsement and satisfaction in the GDR. What the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee had to say about the domestic and foreign policy of the USSR shows how consistently and constructively the party of Lenin and the Soviet state is fulfilling its great responsibility for the good of the people, for the cause of socialism and peace, and for the fundamental interests of all peoples. The full agreement existing between the Leninist policy of the Soviet fraternal party and the course of the 10th SED Congress, as reaffirmed at the seventh session of the SED Central Committee, fills us with joy.

Particularly at the present time, both our party and the CPSU regard it as especially important to preserve and strengthen the solidarity of the socialist fraternal countries. This was unanimously stressed at the latest meeting of the leading representatives of the Warsaw Pact states in Moscow. Both we and the Soviet Union strongly affirm our fraternal solidarity with socialist Cuba in view of the imperialist threat. The GDR also endorses the remarks of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary on the normalization of relations with the PRC as a contribution to enhancing the role of socialism in international life.

Konstantin Chernenko described the conversion of West Europe into a launch pad for U.S. nuclear missiles, targeted against the Soviet Union, the GDR, and other socialist countries, as an enormous activation of the policy of the most aggressive circles of U.S. imperialism. Alongside the Soviet Union, we see our duty as being to contribute to the socialist community's adequate security. The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee declared in all clarity that no potential aggressor could hope to escape a crushing counterattack.

Socialism continues unswervingly to counter the hazardous imperialist policy of arms buildup and confrontation with its policy of consolidating peace. The Soviet Union, as Konstantin Chernenko underlined, is resolutely opposed to an arms race in stocking up nuclear weapon arsenals. On the contrary, it supports a ban on and the destruction of all kinds of these weapons. It is in favor of a Europe free of nuclear weapons, in favor of both sides making a first major step in this direction without delay in accordance with the principle of equal security for everyone. This is an exceptionally constructive offer.

The U.S. Administration has recently sought to affirm its love of peace. There are really many opportunities to prove this with actions. The Soviet Union upholds all its offers to negotiate -- on limiting underground nuclear weapon tests, on a total and universal ban on nuclear weapon tests, on renouncing the militarization of space, on a total and universal ban on the development, production and use of chemical weapons.

It is important to note that agreements on these issues could lead to a real turning-point in Soviet-U.S. relations, to a turning point in the overall international situation On the basis of this belief, the GDR resolutely supports such agreements, including the creation of a zone free of nuclear weapons and free of chemical weapons in Europe.

Of the greatest importance for all peoples, for the cause of world peace, are the proposals that Konstantin Chernenko made on the norms of relations between nuclear powers. Averting nuclear war as the most important foreign policy goal, renouncing all propaganda of such a war, renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons as well as their use against countries which have no such weapons in their possession, the creation of zones free of nuclear weapons, the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, the gradual reduction of nuclear arms until they are totally liquidated -- these are the principles that could lead to a fundamental change in the international situation if they are accepted and adhered to by all nuclear powers as a binding commitment.

Their approval of the remarks by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee reflects the GDR citizens' determination to work in the same way for the common cause of socialism and peace.

"The strength of socialism holds the decisive guarantee of its influence on the struggle for peace," Erich Honecker said at the Berlin SED bezirk delegates' conference, discussing the task of steadily continuing to consolidate the GDR as a socialist state of workers and peasants. "The alliance between the SED and CPSU, and the friendship between the GDR and USSR, are the unshakeable foundation of all that we have achieved so far and all that we plan to achieve in future."

HONECKER MEETS FDP BUNDESTAG OFFICIAL 5 MARCH

LD051459 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1352 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin, 5 Mar (ADN) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, on Monday received Wolfgang Mischnick, chairman of the FDP Parliamentary Group in the FRG Bundestag, for a discussion. Views were exchanged on questions of international developments and on bilateral relations between the two German states. Erich Honecker explained to the FDP politician the primary goal of GDR foreign and security policy which is doing its share to prevent a nuclear catastrophe and to secure world peace. It is important in international relations to be guided by political reason and realism in order to steer developments back onto a sound course. The GDR is living up to its historic and at the same time humanist responsibility of doing everything possible to ensure that no war ever again emanates from German soil.

The two sides concurred that the most pressing problems of the present are to stop the arms race and to limit and reduce arms. Political dialogue between East and West is suitable for giving important impetus for a return to the road of detente. The Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe as well as the resumption of the Vienna talks on reducing troops and arms in Europe, scheduled for the middle of March, could have a positive influence on peaceful, flourishing relations between European states. Erich Honecker and Wolfgang Mischnick fully agreed on the importance of a treaty on banning the use of chemical weapons, their development, production, and storage, and on the verification of its observance.

Furthermore, they attached great importance to the idea of concluding a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of military force and on the preservation of peaceful relations between states, irrespective of which negotiating table, be it in Stockholm, Vienna, Geneva, or elsewhere, leads to a solution of this issue. Also discussed during the exchange of views was the development of relations between the GDR and FRG. Both sides spoke out in favor of working intensively to normalize these relations in accordance with the Basic Treaty. Constructive, realistic steps are important in this respect.

The discussion was also attended on the GDR side by State Secretary Frank-Joachim Herrmann, head of the Chancellory of the State Council Chairman, and on the FRG side by Horst Dahlmeyer, personal advisor of the chairman of the FDP Bundestag group.

Mischnick Press Conference

LD052036 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1925 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin, 5 Mar (ADN) -- After the talks with Erich Honecker, Wolfgang Mischnick, chairman of the FDP Bundestag group, told journalists that they had mainly discussed international issues such as the Soviet proposal to eliminate and control chemical weapons. Th s was seen by both sides as a very important point to bring the superpowers back to the negotiating table. The FDP politician stressed that one could perhaps reach a convergence of views by this means in other areas. There had also been discussion of bilateral issues, especially in the economic sphere.

At a press conference in the afternoon, Wolfgang Mischnick described his talks with Erich Honecker as useful for both sides and for the development of mutual relations. The issue of concluding a treaty on mutual renunciation of military force had also been dealt with. Concerning this, Erich Honecker had very explicitly expressed the wish that such a renunciation of force can be arrived at. The FDP takes a similar view and it is important to create a European peace order in which the use of force is completely banned.

DPA on Mischnick Remarks

LD051449 Hamburg DPA in German 1330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Excerpt] East Berlin, 5 Mar (DPA) -- In East Berlin on Monday, the chairman of the Bundestag FDP parliamentary group, Wolfgang Mischnick, expressed the FRG Government's interest in a visit by GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker. After just 2 hours of talks with Honecker, Mischnick told the press that he expressed Chancellor Helmut Kohl's wish that the State Council chairman's trip should go ahead. He refused to go into details.

Mischnick confirmed that in his talks in the offices of the State Council, he passed on personal remarks from the chancellor, which spelled out the FRG's interest in a policy of detente and of cooperation in economic questions as well as in the human sphere.

Kohl is very happy "that in spite of the counterarmament, there has been success in keeping relations between the two German states apart from the deterioration of the climate," and that positive developments are noticeable here.

The FDP politician said that at his meeting with Honecker, the topic of human problems was touched upon. He himself has always taken the view that "nothing that happens in this area should be spectacular," but should be dealt with in direct talks between those who are responsible for the matters under discussion. This helps people more than spectacular events.

In response to a question, Mischnick rejected the idea of a kind of clearing office for humanitarian problems, as proposed by the SPD. All the existing instruments have "proven themselves adequate even in difficult issues." It is quite clear that this some times takes rather a long time. "One must not forget that at present a higher number of family reunions is taking place than ever before. What matters above all is that this should be continued and not endangered by spectacular events," Mischnick said. This was also a point in his conversation with Honecker in May 1973, and he is happy "that this has developed well."

The talk considered in some detail, Mischnick said, the Soviet proposal to destroy chemical weapons and to verify this. Both sides see this as a very important point in the process of getting the superpowers back to the negotiating table. In his view, one could in this way perhaps achieve a rapprochement in other areas as well, Mischnick said.

Mischnick plans to meet the chairman of the LDPD, the Liberal-Democratic party of the GDR, Manfred Gerlach, and the chairman of the LDPD group in the people's chamber, Rudolf Agsten.

HOFFMANN MEETS WITH LIBYAN CHIEF OF STAFF

LD051846 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1759 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin, 5 Mar (ADN) -- It is necessary to increase the struggle to preserve peace against the aggressive imperialist forces. This was emphasized by Army General Heinz Hoffmann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and GDR Defense Minister; and Brigadier General Mustafa Al-Kharrubi, member of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Socialist Libyan Arab People's Jamahiriyah and chief of General Staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, during an exchange of views today on the current military and political situation. Mustafa al-Kharrubi is heading a delegation of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces that arrived this morning in the GDR for a visit lasting several days.

Minister Hoffmann spoke during the friendly meeting about efforts by members of the National People's Army at the side of the Soviet Army and the other fraternal armies to reliably protect socialism and peace.

HONECKER CONFERS AWARDS ON OUTSTANDING FIGURES

LD051521 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1341 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin, 5 Mar (ADN) -- Outstanding figures were presented with high state awards in Berlin on Monday for special services in comprehensively strengthening the GDR. The awards were conferred by the chairman of the GDR State Council, [Erich Honecker], at the proposal of the SED Central Committee Politburo and the GDR Council of Ministers Presidium. Present at the ceremony in the State Council building were Egon Krenz, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, as well as Werner Jarowinskiy and Inge Lange, candidate members of the Politburo and secretaries of the SED Central Committee.

In his address, Deputy State Council Chairman Dr Ernst Mecklenburg paid tribute to the services of those who received the awards in developing a socialist state that guarantees social security and protection and a high level of education to all its citizens and in which the preservation of peace is elevated to state policy."

The honorary title "Hero of Labor" was conferred among others on Dr Herbert Krolikowski, SED Central Committee member, state secretary, and GDR first deputy foreign minister; Herbert Fechner, chairman of the GDR interparliamentary group, received the clasp of honor to the Patriotic Order of Merit in Gold. Among those who received the Patriotic Order of Merit in Silver was writer Guenther Ruecker.

AXEN ADDRESSES BERLIN WRITERS ON ARMS RACE

AU051343 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- On Thursday Hermann Axen, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, spoke on topical world political problems before the party organization of the Association of Berlin Writers.

The speaker stressed that the statements of Erich Honecker at the Seventh Central Committee Plenum gave the party and the people a precise evaluation of the situation created with the beginning of the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe and a realistic and confident orientation for domestic and foreign policy. The address of the SED Central Committee general secretary has had a great influence on the national and international scene.

Hermann Axen delineated what has caused and which of the extremely aggressive circles of imperialism have brought about the dangerous aggravation of the international situation, and the main directions and aims of the imperialist confrontation course. He analyzed those factors -- above all, socialism -- that do not allow a change in the international balance of power in favor of imperialism. The countermeasures of the Warsaw Pact states againt the deployment of new American first-strike weapons in Western Europe are of great military and political significance for security peace.

Hermann Axen explained that it is possible through the cooperation of all forces interested in peace to foil the imperialist policy of confrontation and to unblock the path to detente, to peaceful cooperation for mutual advantage, and to efficient measures for arms limitation and disarmament. In this connection, the speaker discussed the positions of the GDR and the other socialist states at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament.

Following the statements, which were received with great applause, Hermann Axen answered numerous questions of the people present.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH HUNGARY -- Guenther Wyschofsky, GDR minister of chemical industry, discussed problems related to further deepening cooperation with Istvan Kortvelyes, deputy minister of industry of the Hungarian People's Republic in charge of chemical industry. The interlocutors' special interest was devoted to specialization and cooperation in the sphere of agricultural chemistry. On 29 February, Istvan Kortvelyes completed his 3-day visit to the GDR. [Text] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 1 Mar 84 p 2 AU]

CSSR'S STROUGAL IN BUDAPEST FOR TALKS WITH LAZAR

Economic Issues Discussed

LD051539 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1400 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Talks opened in Budapest today between Lubomir Strougal, Czechoslovak prime minister, and Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic. From the Czechoslovak side the talks were attended by Rudolf Rohlicek, deputy federal prime minister; Jindrich Rehorek, first deputy minister of foreign affairs; Vaclav Urban, deputy chairman of the State Planning Commission; Alois Hloch, deputy minister of foreign trade; and Ondrej Durej, Czechoslovak ambassador to Hungary.

Present from the Hungarian side were Jozef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Istvan Roska, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Gyula Kovacs, deputy chairman of the State Planning Office; Janos Vas, deputy minister of foreign trade; and Bela Kovacs, the Hungarian ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

Both representatives exchanged detailed information about the current political and economic situation in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, about the principal tasks that are the center of attention for both countries in the current year and about longer-term intentions connected with the preparation of the 5-year plans for the 1986-1990 period.

In connection with the assessment of the world economic situation they also talked about external economic relations. They devoted a great deal of attention to the possibilities of the further all-round development of cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Hungary and to solidifying the conclusions drawn at last year's meeting between the highest representatives of both countries, Gustav Husak and Janos Kadar. They expressed great appreciation for the results achieved in political, economic, and cultural fields and stressed that there exist favorable prerequisites in all sectors for a further intensification of cooperation. In the economic field this means in particular broadening and intensifying cooperation and specialization in the manufacturing sectors. Lubomir Strougal and Gyorgy Lazar stressed that this form of cooperation is the most effective way of increasing the effectiveness of the national economy and of further increasing the volume of goods exchange between Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Lazar Addresses Dinner

LD052103 Prague CTK in English 1955 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Budapest (CTK correspondent) -- Hungarian Premier Gyorgy Lazar gave a dinner in honour of visiting Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal Monday night and in a toast pointed out the growing aggressiveness of extreme imperialist circles.

He stated that the deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles further increased the nuclear threat to Europe. We agreed, he pointed out, that in these circumstances it is highly important to strengthen our system of alliance and not to permit disruption of the military balance of forces. The unfavourable international development is not irreversible, the arms race can be halted, but only talks based on the principle of equality and equal security can have satisfactory result.

The premier expressed unequivocal support of the Hungarian Government and people for the peace policy of the Soviet Union, detente, atmosphere of confidence and development of mutually beneficial cooperation.

Referring to today's talks Gyorgy Lazar said there is complete agreement of views between the two countries on all important questions in both the construction of socialism and the evaluation of the international situation.

He noted that contacts are developing in all spheres and the decisive role is played in this by the internationalist cohesion and comradely cooperation between the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

Economic cooperation between the two countries has favourable results even in the more difficult conditions, the premier said and added that the two countries will continue to promote specialization and cooperation in production, especially in some branches of engineering, the chemical and food industries, as well as electronics and the production of automating equipment, Gyorgy Lazar stated.

Strougal Dinner Toast

LD052108 Prague CTK in English 2000 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Budapest (CTK correspondent) -- The attempt to change strategic balance and threaten the security of countries of the socialist community could not be left without counter-measures, Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal said Monday.

Proposing a toast at the dinner given in his honour by Hungarian Premier Gyorgy Lazar he stated that in order to restore balance the Soviet Union and its allies were forced to take steps in the political and mainly the military sphere. In line with allied commitments, part of these measures is being realized on the territory of Czechoslovakia which thus demonstrates loyalty to the aims of the Warsaw Treaty.

Despite this, Lubomir Strougal continued, we declare together with the fraternal countries that our aim is not war but peace, and therefore we prefer cooperation to confrontation, coexistence to pressure, dialogue to monologue. This is why we call for a treaty on mutual non-use of force and preservation of peace relations between the countries of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO. This is why we propose to ban chemical weapons and weapons in space, the Czechoslovak premier said.

He added that even in this complex period Czechoslovakia is optimistic, thanks to the alliance with the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty states, including the southern neighbour -- Hungary.

Lubomir Strougal stated that cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Hungary, particularly in the economic sphere, corresponds to the needs of time, to extending the horizons of developed socialist society.

He appreciated the modern forms of cooperation between the two countries which seek to dynamically extend their exchanges, their joint activity on third markets and other forms and pointed out in this context the emphasis put on the coordination of national economic plans which must encourage concentration on progressive branches.

PLANNING OFFICE CHAIRMAN, SOCIOLOGIST INTERVIEWED

LD021430 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 2010 GMT 1 Mar 84

[From the "Background to the News" Program; interview with Lajos Faluvegi, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and "Sociologist" (Ivan Tocsis) by unidentified journalists; date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Faluvegi] Public activity such as this interview has an official rule, and it also has an ethical rule. The official rule is that the government prepares an information plan, in which it determines which are the most important decisions and events. On the basis of these, members of the government give to the public information on the work of the government, and we, the members of the government, keep to this in our work. My topic is now included in this information plan.

The ethical rule is that, although this information plan does not contain prohibitory regulations and does not restrict making an appearance, nevertheless, it is fitting that we, as members of the collective body, should keep to this and not emphasize our own branches. We should make public appearances when it is really necessary to give information on some very important issue.

[Question] So it follows from this that you do not necessarily stand or sit in front of the announcers when you consider this to be good. Or am I wrong?

[Faluvegi] Not always, not always. However, there can be an occasion when a government member takes the initiative, feels that he is dealing with issues or must implement decisions in which he must request the help of the public.

[Question] I am certain that since our last conversation 1 and 1/2 years ago you personally and the government have had plenty of tasks, but permit a remark in this regard. There are some who believe that the government often deals with issues that scarcely surpass the competence of a ministerial head of department or a council chairman. So, if you please, I somewhat jokingly borrow this slogan from a sentence in an advertisement: The government attends too much to details. I think that we should speak about this, because I think it is an important topic, but if you please, we have prepared an interview with economist Laszlo Antal. We spoke about this issue with him as well. The reporter was Gizella Tarnoi.

[Begin recording] [Tarnoi] We hear and emphasize nothing but that it is necessary to increase the independence of enterprise, it is necessary to decentralize decision-making authority. For example, the issue of establishing a nudist colony in Hungary came before the Council of Ministers. In your opinion, what is the reason for this? Why is there a need for this?

[Antal] As for why a nudist beach got there, I do not know, naturally. As for why trivial issues get to high levels, the economy provides the best example for this. In economic issues, we usually say fine words primarily about independence and other issues of local initiative. On economic issues, one of the real question marks in the realization of independence -- I do not say it is an obstacle, because (?no one says it) is necessary and there can be no question of obstacles -- is that high-level state forums, primarily the National Planning Office and the Economic Commission, decide issues such as investments by individual enterprises, the financial problems of unprofitable enterprises, the (?conveyors in) partner relations of unprofitable enterprises. Put plainly, one of the high-level state offices in fact fulfills a market-substituting function.

[Tarnoi] [Words indistinct] how it gets into these issues.

[Antal] There is a real reason. We have economic difficulties. Everyone is already fed up with this. For this reason, market difficulties follow. A monopolized (?organization) again gives rise to market difficulties. For want of foreign currency, the market difficulties produce supply shortages.

However, the interventions are such that they, instead of the market, attempt to organize the systems of relations that are needed. They can cause unexpected (?development). In any case, they shape situations, behavior such that -- the enterprises count on it, too -- if they are in trouble they intervene; and if they are not in trouble, but have too great a profit and the partner is in trouble, then they also intervene. The government intervenes because the (?self-organization) of market relations does not operate. The (?self-organization) does not operate because everyone knows that it is necessary to count on government intervention. This intervention provokes abnormal behavior by the enterprises. A catch-22 situation is created. They know that the government intervenes; they cannot decide independently. For lack of independent decision and adjustment, however, the government must intervene. One side sees that it is necessary for it to intervene because the local unit does not work on its own. The other side sees that it cannot decide independently on such intervention because there is high-level intervention in every important issue, starting with the price of [word indistinct]. [end recording]

[Question] One single question emerges, Comrade Faluvegi. Do you agree with this quite brief but concise evaluation of the situation?

[Faluvegi] I think that this was not so very brief, and it touched on many issues. I should like to add some comments. One is that undoubtedly the government organs have had to deal in the past year with many economic issues with which it was perhaps not necessary to deal in the previous years. Laszlo Antal also acknowledged that we worked amid such economic conditions. It was necessary to supply industry with less energy. We had difficulties in acquiring imports necessary for production. We had payments problems. The government had to play a much more active part in overcoming these than previously. Thus, this is true. This can be explained with the circumstances.

It also is true that grains of sand got in between the cogwheels of the system of direction, and direction creaked in some cases. Now, as regards the concrete issues, I believe that there are misunderstandings about the extent and forms of intervention, and there is also erroneous information.

Let us say in the case of the beach mentioned one of the departments of the Ministry of Internal Trade took measures, as far as I know, and this really cannot be viewed as the decision of the government.

[Question] Please, this is how it spread.

[Faluvegi] Yes. Here there are misunderstandings in public opinion, because a distinction must be made between an office, a supreme state authority, a ministry, or a committee of government and the government itself. Often these are equated with each other. Now, as regards this catch-22 example, it is very witty. If we want this to be resolved, and we do, then there must be concessions on both sides, because if only one gives, then the other still holds on.

[Question] Just as the pike and the fox...

[Faluvegi] Precisely so, that is exactly how I see it. It is a very witty example. I believe that in the future, on the one hand we will be able to work amid economic conditions, on the way out of the difficulties, when this pressure will not exist or will slowly decrease. The other thing is that the government is determined to develop, improve economic direction, primarily in spheres that have been mentioned, that is, the spheres of market supervision and the formulation of regulations, opportunities that can ease the conflict situations, or some of them, so that government intervention is not necessarily needed.

[Question] Comrade Faluvegi, do you mean that if the government deals with trivial issues, then, as a result of the circumstances, this is necessary? For example, because of local inability, or a weak ability, to make decisions?

[Faluvegi] I refer primarily to the external circumstances, but present in our economy and in our society is the phenomenon that in some places decisions are undertaken with difficulty. Instead, the opinions, decisions of safer, higher authorities are relied on. In government work, let us say in the work of the Planning Commission, I expressly experience such endeavors.

I would still like to make two comments. Everywhere in the world in issues such as an important industrial enterprise becoming involved in a conflict situation -- we recently heard about the case of the French Talbot factory -- the government for political reasons has to help in some manner the industrial branches, the enterprises concerned, in order for them to scrape through. This does not mean that they make a decision instead of the leaders of the industrial enterprise, but somehow they find the tools and methods that can assist in the recovery -- I say again, primarily for political reasons, for creating social balance, employment opportunities, or for easing the conflict. Finally, I would still like to say that the picture includes the fact that in recent times the government -- and I emphasize this -- dealt more with the issues of long-term planning, or with long-term programs such as demographic policy, than with trivial issues.

[Question] I just wanted to say that the main task of the government, I think, is nevertheless to formulate and discuss comprehensive concepts (?and) the decisions related to these. Here, for example, is the long-term plan valid until 2000. I can imagine that it occurs to some of the viewers to wonder whether it is necessary for us to think about what will happen in 2000 when we do not even know which price to increase in July, let us say. Is it at all possible to think in such a long term, when the preparation of a medium-range plan is quite a risky undertaking?

[Faluvegi] I believe that it is not only possible but also undoubtedly necessary. Let me make a comparison. A peasant or a hiker knows very well that if he wants to go somewhere far away, and if he really wants to get there without very great sacrifices and (?falls), then it is not enough just to look ahead of his feet and occasionally to take a good long look back at what a long journey he has already made. There is also such a danger in our society. This is why it is necessary for us to look ahead in some issues and to think through our future. Of course, these can only be strategic conceptions and obviously not details of price policy or production details. I would still like to raise three things as a justification for long-term planning. One is the responsibility of the political-economic leadership of every country occasionally to think through thoroughly great issues that determine the entire future of the nation, making use of the (?principle) of science. Such issues in our country are demographic policy or, let us say, our relationship with the natural environment in the future. In this regard we are especially endangered.

Another issue is this: In a world such as this, in which we hope the forces of peace and coexistence will be lastingly determining, there are and can be political and economic conflict situations. Society must be prepared for this, know how it should react to this type of thing from a social and economic viewpoint. And finally, something that is often forgotten: There are economic issues that cannot be resolved in the short term. So, there is a need for long-term decisions.

I give an example of this. If we want Hungarian industry and the population to be supplied with energy in 2000, then we must adopt decisions in the following years as to what kind of power plants we shall build.

[Question] In connection with this, with respect to strategic tasks, let me ask whether in the course of long-term planning the issue was raised of the Hungarian economy's remaining as open as it is today and as it has been for some years, decades, or whether it would be more rational to rely on our own resources and possibilities, because, some say, in this way we can be more protected and can develop more securely. (?This is a typical) strategic question.

[Faluvegi] Yes, of course this featured in the debates. Various prognoses and studies were prepared in this subject area as well. I can briefly say on the basis of these that the views and ideas with respect to the openness of the Hungarian economy have strengthened, and the opinion based on the experiences of long-term planning is that our economic development can be acceptable only if we retain this openness, although the conditions for this must be created. Economic openness has material bases in Hungary; so it is an economic necessity.

Let me give you a justification for this as well. First, in the future for a very long time we will continue to be obliged to import energy and raw materials and to pay for them with finished products. This already means that whether we want it or not, the door, metaphorically speaking, has to be open. Another reason is that we do not want to fall behind in technical, technological progress with respect to the vanguard of the world. On the contrary, we would like to catch up in some aspects. For this we would have to be able to pay for and should be able to purchase the necessary technology and production (?process). These, too, have to be paid for. This again means that the door has to be open. Finally, Hungary has an agro-economic potential, as long-term planners technically call it. Considering the average food supply level in the world, we are capable of producing food for 25-30 million; so why should we leave this opportunity unexplored? This therefore means that our production potentials too are such that if we want to develop them -- and it is in our interest to do so -- then we will have to present them on the world market, on the market of fraternal countries as well as on other markets.

[Question] Let me ask you to dwell on this subject at least for one more question and comment. You have twice used the phrase "must be paid for." Energy must be paid for, many other things must be paid for. We can pay for something only with competitive products. If we want to advance, and we do, then this has preconditions, and I believe that the most basic precondition for this is that the economy, and within it industry, should have its competitiveness improved in a fundamental, radical manner. Do we have any chance for doing this?

[Faluvegi] Well, it is indeed a key question. In the coming years the way for the development of the Hungarian economy and society is determined by the renewal of Hungarian industry. In the course of long-term planning we came to the conclusion -- and this again proves how justified long-term planning is -- that we have to select those points of transformation where we are most capable of catching up with the vanguard of the world, or at least not falling behind.

We have to find pulling branches that pull up the entire industry, and for this the scientific resources, brain power, and our organizational strength as well as the available resources for development must be coordinated. This can be done only in the long term, but let me add here, if you allow me, that, to avoid speaking only in generalities, we see these in microelectronics, in the development of biotechnology, in medical, chemical, and pharmaceutical branches of industry. We have to concentrate on these in order to avoid a widening of the technical, technological gap.

[Faluvegi] I think that long-term planning, if it has approved, established, supported such a train of thought, even if this is not an entirely new social recognition, at least has the value that it is better thought out and is coordinated with the prognoses that we have made of the external conditions and with prognoses (?related) to the transformation of the domestic economy. So therefore, the goal here in long-term planning has not been to deal with the social value system itself or with its transformation, but to fit all this into a future picture.

[Question] I ask, Comrade Faluvegi, that from the long-term we briefly approach the more medium term. While the work of long-term planning obviously continues further, the preparation, working out of the 7th 5-Year Plan has started, moreover, as it has emerged from the press briefing today of the Planning Office, with the participation of the most varied social organizations. Can I say that this is according to custom, that the societal'zation [tarsadalmasiasitas] of planning in our country is some kind of tradition or some kind of new trait?

[Faluvegi] I would not use the description "according to custom" here, at least as regards the purposes.

[Question] As regards the purposes?

[Faluvegi] Yes, because we are at the beginning of a task. We cannot refer to it as if it were already completed. It is necessary to speak sincerely. What is it in this that is essentially new? It is essentially new that in the previous 5-year plan, we discussed the plan conceptions with the leading bodies of the social organizations when, as we say in technical language, the plan conception, or the plan outline was perhaps more than what (?emerged). This was not useless. I remember these debates. I myself defended this conception in spite of the fact that I started to (?form) [word indistinct] in SZOT [National Trade Union Council], in the Patriotic People's Front and in the Planning and Budget Committee of the National Assembly, and this enriched us, as it did those people, I think, who criticized the (?plan).

Now, however, the issue at hand is something else. Now we have signed a cooperation work program that is the overture to planning work, so when there still is no conception, the issues still have not been decided...

[Question] When everything still is possible?

[Faluvegi] ...When, let us say, everything still is possible. For this reason, this is a new type of initiative.

[Question] In any case, irrespective of this, I believe that you at least agree with the question. I ask, can the debate of the plan, or generally the social debate, guarantee in itself a good decision? In this regard, not only I have doubts, but also others -- for example, Elemer Hankiss, the sociologist -- have doubts. We have had a brief interview with him.

[Begin recorded interview with Elemer Hankiss by unidentified journalist] [Question] When preparing for this conversation, I asked a good number of people about what social debate there has been previously in Hungary. They were unable to answer. In fact, a good number of people were uncomprehending upon hearing of the concept of social debate. After this, I must ask whether there is social debate in Hungary. If there is, to what extent is it social and to what extent is it debate?

[Hankiss] There is some confusion about this concept. It means two things: Nowadays specialists' debates are called social debates. At the same time it is customary to call a debate of the more general public, a wider circle, the same thing. Many specialists' debates have taken place in past years, but generally people do not know very much about these. Social debates have taken place about some (?issues); not very much has come to light about the results of these.

[Question] What conditions does the social debate, which you mentioned last, which is more widespread and includes not just specialists, have? When is it really a social debate?

[Hankiss] (?I mean), rather, by social debate, that -- I make one point -- it is possible to debate not exclusively over topics that possibly are spectacular but insignificant. It happens in our country that we call such debates "social." Another thing: It is very important that we not debate things in which a decision has already been reached. There have been examples of this, and if a mood of "it has been decided anyway" prevails in a country, then debates destroy, rather than being beneficial. A third thing: It would be good if debates did not always come from questions, but rather if they were to be raised spontaneously, if society were to speak of its own accord. The fourth point....

[Question] Excuse me, we are not used to this.

[Hankiss] It must be learned. The fourth point is that it would be important for debate not to be solely an exchange of opinions, but to be a preparation for the (?coordination) of interests. In our country we generally come to a stop at this point. We speak, we make proposals. In actuality, for one thing we do not (?formulate) our own interests, and there is no opportunity for this debate really to exert influence on the formation of political will. This does not mean that there is no need for such debates, because every means (?must exist) for bringing forth extended information from the depths in a country where information comes up from the depths with difficulty. The best thing would be if the debates were to pave the way for better-than-hitherto operation of the institutional system of real interest-conflict. These would have real sense then.

These debates can do the greatest harm if we believe that by merely speaking we have done what is necessary, if we believe that without real struggle of interest-(?coordination), debates in themselves resolve anything. [end recording]

[Question] It struck me how much Elemer Hankiss used the conditional mood in his discussion. Perhaps it struck you, too. This is as if it were a type of qualification of our social debates. And let me add that I do not believe that the readiness to debate is lacking, perhaps it is the culture of debate, rather, that is lacking.

[Faluvegi] Elemer Hankiss is a scholar of this topic, and I agree with his intention of improvement. I, too, would state four points, just as he does. I think that is correct for us to endeavor to call the thing....

[Question] What do you mean?

[Faluvegi] It already has been mentioned here in a certain connection. It should not be considered a social debate if, let us say, the Central Committee of KISZ [Hungarian Communist Youth League] or the Presidium of the Patriotic People's Front expresses an official opinion on some important issue. This is a form of coordinating social interests, I emphasize, one form.

[Question] That is a type of specialist debate.

[Faluvegi] That is so, but this can only be evaluated as a specialist debate. This is not a social debate.

[Question] Excuse me, it is not the press that baptizes such exchanges of views as social debate; it is the organizing body.

[Faluvegi] I would not dare to state this in this way. In the government we are of the opinion, most definitely -- just recently with respect to demography policy questions as well the government firmly expressed its opinion -- that we consider very important those debates in which we ask for the views of directing bodies of social organizations, but we do not consider them social debates. A social debate was, for example, the one dealing with the preparation of the home building program, or, in other words, one in which the entire public opinion of the country, every resident, in some way could in fact have access, could get to know the idea under consideration and express a view about it. Such was, for example, the settlement network development debate, the debate about settlement policy. This is one issue.

The other thing I would like to single out is that I think these issues must be seen in their development. What has been raised here, our having discussed complete concepts, has been possible because, as the above examples illustrate, we have progressed beyond these issues, but still they cannot be excluded from consideration; we ask for opinion about these complete concepts as well. The third thing I want to mention is that it is clear to us that the system of conditions of interest coordination and its forums must be made clearer. At the moment we are dealing with the development of the system of direction, and it comes out rather clearly that one of the forums of interest coordination is at the level of planning organs. I do not mean here the National Planning Office, but the ministries and high authorities and those connected with them, for example, the trade unions of the branch or industry in question. The other level is the government and its committees where the leading bodies of the interest representation (?parties) tell the government or its committees their opinions or present them in writing. The highest forum of interest coordination is the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, i.e. the highest body of the party, while the highest state forum is the National Assembly. Until now, we have not been able to handle these interest coordination debates in such a consistent manner, but nevertheless this is the intention, and it has even had good experiences to date. Finally, fourthly, I would say that I would not state that these debates had no effect whatever on the political will. I dare to undertake asking, for example, the activists of the Patriotic People's Front not only [words indistinct]

[Question] Do you mean that the proposals worded in the debate then are taken into account?

[Faluvegi] Yes, yes.

[Question] This is what you mean. In this regard....

[Faluvegi] For example, in the case of the development of the settlement network. This has exerted a very important influence on how the means are distributed now, in what direction, between the central settlements and the small settlements.

[Question] Excuse me, is it not necessary to fear that at such a social debate too many viewpoints might come into the discussion, precisely because the number of contributors is quite large, and finally one of the viewpoints might preclude another? And ought it not be feared that if, via this, too much information is presented to the planners, then the planners might -- excuse me for the expression -- easily get confused? How do they rank what to decide and how?

[Faluvegi] There is such a danger. We think that the stances must be arranged in three groups of issues. This can be a general (?attitude). One is that in this social debate the bodies affected must take a stance on the main line of the conception. Simply, whether the line on this is good. This still is not a detail.

The second thing: A stand must be taken in the issue that is the most important from the viewpoint of the relevant interest-protection body. The cooperation work program was mentioned. We have asked the People's Front to give an opinion regarding the next 5-year plan, primarily on the issues of demographic policy and regional development. We have asked KISZ about the issues of demographic policy and housing supply; we have asked the National Trade Union Council about the issues of price and wage policy. Finally, most important -- and here is something from the other side in which there must be development -- there must be an ordering of priorities in this debate and in the contributions, that is, as to what is considered to be of primary importance or indispensable, what is secondary, and so on. There is a need for this so that the people making decisions will not be confused. There is also a need for this because we attempt to work out the next 5-year plan in three variants, awaiting, or prepared for, certain opportunities, or perhaps...

[Question] Changes?

[Faluvegi] Yes. And then, this ranking provides an opportunity for us to substitute these variants. Obviously there is room for much more improvement of the society's provisions if it is a favorable variant rather than an unfavorable variant.

[Question] Yes, but whether the decision was good or not can be known at the moment of making the decision only rarely. Obviously, this emerges only at a later phase; how it is carried out is not unimportant. Its implementation can justify the decision. Let us take an example. You mentioned housing, about which there has been widespread social debate. There were [word indistinct] preparations, various phases of decision-making, yet there are people who say that nevertheless it was not faultless. They add that it cannot be known whether the original conception was not perfect, or whether faults appeared later in the implementation.

Please listen to the opinion of another sociologist, (Ivan Tocsis). Do you consider the housing reform to be a good decision?

[(Tocsis)] I consider the housing reform, introduced on 1 January 1983, to be one of the most important decisions of the reform process since the end of 1978, apart from the economic sphere.

[Question] Important, yes, but good as well?

[(Tocsis)] First, I would say that it is important. I mean by this that it has brought very significant changes in 1 year. On the one hand, home-building increased by 20 percent in 1 year with regard to construction that was begun, and within this, a very great change took place -- state target home-building decreased by 40 percent, while private home-building, individual private home-building, increased by more than 60 percent.

In this sense, this housing reform was important. I also consider it to be a good decision, but I might say that I feel that in the decisionmaking process the structural, institutional changes which would have ensured the lasting and long-term effect of this housing reform were not ensured and did not occur. I feel that certain opposing forces are organizing themselves in an attempt to do something against this housing reform.

[Question] What do you mean by opposing forces? Who are they?

[Tocsis] Some institutions are discovering that these new housing policy regulations have an effect opposing their fundamental interests. For example, state construction industry enterprises do not now receive the subventions they once did. I am thinking about council (?sales), workers' support, and so forth. The interests of these enterprises basically are harmed by the new housing policy regulation, but there are signs that (?they will) get further, special subventions from the state for the marketability of their dwellings.

[Question] This means that the housing reform is slipping somewhat sideways.

[Tocsis] It can slip sideways, in so far as measures take place in the near future to prevent this. So, for the real functioning of the market, new organizational, structural money-distribution changes ought to be made. In my feeling, the authorities do not take the appropriate path for the spread of the social policy function. Somewhat, social policy and the market are always confused. (?Participants), who ought to be encouraged toward private home-building have not been moved out of the sector of council housing. Consequently the process by which young people could get cheaper and [word indistinct] dwellings are not getting underway.

[Question] Before we proceed further I would like to note that the issue at hand is not the conception of housing. I consider it to be a very important statement that important decisions and good decisions are not identical. However, let us proceed. More precisely, in my view the issue at hand, and this is our fundamental question, is whether the government in Hungary today is capable of having all of its decisions and resolutions carried out consistently, or whether it must see certain opposing forces organizing themselves in the implementation phase rather than in its initial period, so that perhaps they might torpedo this decision or some of its details?

[Faluvegi] The posing of this question calls to mind a courageous statement from Andras Kovacs, which I read some weeks ago in ELET ES IRODALOM. I will try to quote accurately...

[Question] The movie director?

[Faluvegi] Yes, the noted movie director, who is sensitive to the problems of our society. He said the following: Present simultaneously in Hungarian politics are forces on the government side and of the opposition; naturally put in quotation marks -- and, how shall I put it, viewed in their historical process. That is, at the time of every such great decision and also prior to the decision, present are forces wanting to make some kind of progressive step, a greater and courageous step to realistically resolve some social problem; also present are those forces that stand in thought close to the maintenance of what exists. So they give priority to the maintenance of the structures, procedures, positions, (?the opponents). So, here, in the film presented, it does not surprise me that there are critics of this significant step or those who do not see their interests expressed.

Of course, I give my thanks that this was called a reform, but I know more good things about this program than what was said here. It is not worthwhile listing these now. Rather, I would like to say that the government is aware that in some issues we have not been able to achieve (?a series of) striking successes.

[Question] Why not?

[Faluvegi] I shall tell you now. First, what are they? How do we consider the issue of the acquisition of dwellings by young people, this certain graduated system?

[Question] About which you spoke 18 months ago on this program.

[Faluvegi] Yes. You also expressed your doubts then.

[Question] I did not want to say so, but if you mention it, yes.

[Faluvegi] Here we have not managed to achieve success with striking force, and there are certain middle strata, contrary to what was said here. I do not consider the main problem to be that we have not been able to push out certain strata onto the market in the interest of acquiring dwellings. I now consider it to be a main problem that there is a stratum which stands very close to partaking in social housing allocation because of the per capita family income, but it somewhat exceeds this. This situation of these with regard to housing allocation is uncertain and has deteriorated.

Of course, there also are other problems: The construction industry structure and the system of interest of the construction industry do not want to budge. I think that these are significant measures in which it is not possible to act with striking force, and to which the economic and social structures must accommodate themselves. As long as the material relations of power and the relations of interest have not been settled by us, the economic structures do not move either. It is not possible to transform the economic structures before the penetration of the new features of such a government resolution.

[Question] However, it is possible to predict. Excuse me, is it possible to predict this in advance, or is it not? I want to ask: In the end, can it occur that the government makes a faulty decision? If it can occur, then does the government accept that the decision or conception was faulty, that it had not yet foreseen certain things, because it was not possible to foresee?

[Faluvegi] Please, let us remain with the issue of housing for 1 minute. I give an analogous example. It is possible to build a very modern investment in 2 years, but it is possible that it takes 5 or 6 years to train the work force for it. So, these have different time requirements in the process of realization. A certain time is necessary for these conditions to be put in order. So much for the issue of housing -- it will be resolved. I wish to point out -- and few people know this -- but the committees that prepared the housing reform are working now. The government has passed a new work program, and during this half-year the government will return to these issues and provide further impetus to the housing issues and adjust that which must be adjusted. Finally, naturally the government can make erroneous decisions, or partially erroneous decisions. Or more exactly, it can (?find justification) that the conditions on which the decision was based have changed, so the decision requires correction. This must be acknowledged, and at such times the government must take modifying measures. The lesson must be drawn; moreover, the responsibility, the reason must be established.

[Question] Comrade Faluvegi, we started our conversation with a personal question. Permit us to close it with a personal question. You have led the Planning Office for 4 years; you have acquired no small experience in planning work. To what extent have you realized your own professional ideas?

[Faluvegi] Well, if I want to be frank, I must say not to the extent I imagined or would like.

[Question] In this regard, you still have [passage indistinct]

CONFERENCE ON MARXISM, CHRISTIANITY URGES 'TRUST'

AU051126 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 2 Mar 84 p 8

[Text] The international scientific conference entitled "Man's Responsibility in Today's World" concluded its work on 1 March at the Central School of the National Council of Trade Unions.

On the final day of the conference the participants formulated the basic principles they believe may serve as guidelines in the dialogue between Marxists and Christians, and between Marxists and followers of any other ideology. They find it particularly important that dialogue be sincere, that everyone be allowed to express his ideological position and opinion concerning the other ideologies in the interest of understanding and in the interest of meetings held to support one another. They concluded: None can consider himself the exclusive holder of truth; there is need for trust toward the other side as well. The people of different ideologies should try to become mutually acquainted with the ideological positions of each other, because this is the only way to abolish prejudices and avoid mistakes. A series of dialogues following such principles can bring about an important contribution to world peace and can also create a more favorable atmosphere for solving the conflicts threatening mankind.

BRIEFS

PLANNING TALKS WITH USSR -- Lev Vasilyev, deputy chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Soviet Union, conferred in Budapest with Miklos Pulai, first deputy chairman of the National Planning Office on the machine industry issues of coordinating the Hungarian-Soviet peoples' economic plans for 1986-1990. Lev Vasilyev was received by Lajos Faluvegi, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the National Planning Office, and by Laszlo Kapolyi, minister of industry. At the talks, they reviewed the agreement reached at the Moscow meeting between the Hungarian and Soviet party and government delegations in July 1983, particularly the tasks regarding cooperation in the machine industry elaborated during the coordination of the plans for 1986-1990. They concluded that the level of the technical-scientific and economic cooperation in the machine industry sphere between the two countries is a good basis for the development of mutually favorable cooperation. [Excerpt] [Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 25 Feb 84 p 4 AU]

NUMBER OF ARTISANS GROWS -- The number of artisans last year increased at a much faster rate than in previous years. Their national association announced that nearly 130,000 private tradesmen are working in the country at the moment, of which 28,000 received their operational license last year. Private tradesmen employ more than 6,000 trainees, and this is especially important in terms of the future supply of skilled workers. Last year, 117 operational licenses had to withdrawn because their owners either failed to pay tax or cheated their customers. [Text] [Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 19 Feb 84 LD]

POLITBURO ON LAW, ORDER, PEREZ DE CUELLAR VISIT

AU051446 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 29 Feb 84 pp 1-2

[Text] PAP -- The 28 February session of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo attended by Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the State Council, and representatives of the Sejm, the Supreme Court, the General Prosecutor's Office, and appropriate ministries, assessed the observance and consolidation of law and order in Poland.

The Politburo stated that progress has been made since 1982 in the consolidation of law and order, in guaranteeing order and security, and in the improvement of the effectiveness of the bodies that protect legal order. Martial law put a stop to the destructive activity of anarchistic forces and restricted crime.

However, the crime level is still relatively high and some segments of it have even grown, for example, property, speculation, and fiscal crimes. Working people have been criticizing state bodies for the continuing ineffectiveness of the fight against the economic underground and those who amass money at society's cost. The insufficient measures that are used especially in relation to the perpetrators of crimes concerning bad management and wastefulness, organized speculation, bribery, rape, robbery, and burglary often meet with public disapproval. The possibilities of using economic controls to ensure that economic crimes are no longer worth committing have been too little exploited, as has the adjudication of additional disciplinary action such as preventing people from returning to their former positions, professions, or from carrying out specific activities, as well as making these verdicts public.

An important factor in the consolidation of law and order is the definite improvement in work discipline, which is responsible for the real progress in the resolution of economic problems.

The Politburo expects broader support from society for the efforts it has undertaken to improve the observance of the law and the consolidation of law and order. The more effectively criminal activities are halted, the more property will -- in accordance with the class-based nature of our state -- be available for distribution among society, and the stronger the feeling of social justice will become.

It was stated that despite certain progress that has been made in the implementation of laws to prevent and combat phenomena of social pathology, this process is not satisfactory. In connection with this, the Politburo mapped out tasks to be performed by party cells and organizations, duties for the responsible bodies of the administration of the state and the economy, and turned to social organizations to increase their efforts in the prevention and combat of harmful social phenomena.

The PZPR Central Committee Politburo discussed the report on the basic lines of activity of the Council of Ministers' Committee for the Observance of the Law, Public Order, and Social Discipline, which was set up on 2 December 1983. The committee has until now concentrated its activities on problems of important socioeconomic significance, and dealt with, among other things, security, discipline, and order on the Polish state railways; the state of the observance of legal regulations in the management of liquid fuels; the effectiveness of fiscal systems, and the issue of those who obtain excessive profits in relation to the labor and materials they have put into their work, and in particular, wastefulness and bad management. The Politburo also initiated other measures for enactment.

The Politburo approved the committee's work directives that were presented to it and pointed to the need for their consistent implementation as well as its belief that the committee's activities will ensure the essential coordination of state bodies and social organizations in the strengthening of the conditions that contribute to the observance of the law as well as the peaceful and secure lives of the citizens.

The Politburo stressed that the proper functioning and development of democracy can only be ensured under the conditions of the observance of the law and of social discipline.

The Politburo was familiarized with the official visit paid to Poland by Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, from 18-21 February and assessed its results positively.

The political talks that were conducted during the course of the visit with Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee; Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the State Council; and Stefan Olszowski, minister of foreign affairs, as well as with a wide circle of representatives from Poland's political and social life, enabled the UN secretary general to familiarize himself directly with the progress in the normalization and stabilization of the situation in our country, as well as with the PPR's basic principles and foreign policy lines.

The Politburo stated that the importance that the UN secretary general attaches to the following creates a good attitude to the development of a fruitful cooperation between Poland and the United Nations Organization and its secretary general: the need to work for the cause of disarmament and international security, the rebuilding of trust and dialogue in East-West relations, his critical assessment of restrictive practices in international economic relations, as well as his sincere attitude to our country, and his understanding of its problems.

In its talks with the UN secretary general, the Polish side stressed the unchanging principles of Polish foreign policy; namely, its close cooperation with the USSR and other countries from the socialist community for the sake of reversing the threat of war, maintaining peace, halting the arms race, and promoting equal cooperation between the states. Poland's solidarity with nonaligned countries in their aspirations to base their international economic cooperation on just principles was stressed. The Politburo stressed its readiness to develop its cooperation with Western countries in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law, as well as with noninterference in domestic issues.

The Politburo noted with satisfaction the UN secretary general's regard for the PPR's peaceful policies on disarmament, detente, and the consolidation of cooperation and international trust between world countries as well as the PPR's contribution to the UN's activities, including the peaceful mission being performed by the units of the Polish Armed Forces in the UN Forces on the Golan Heights. The visit of the UN secretary general to Poland was regarded as an important political event in the light of consolidating Poland's position in the world, as well as an important part of the fight against attempts to isolate our country politically and diplomatically.

The Politburo acknowledged that the visit and its results should favor the further development of cooperation between Poland and the United Nations Organization. It confirmed Poland's support for the United Nations Organization and the secretary general's efforts to strengthen it.

SIWICKI ADDRESSES MILITARY RESERVISTS 29 FEB

AU051131 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 1 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] Speaking at a meeting between the leadership of the Ministry of National Defense and young officers and officer cadets in the military reserve in Bydgoszcz on 29 February, General of Arms Florian Siwicki, minister of national defense, described the current situation in Poland and spoke of the need for young Polish intelligentsia, part of which comprises officers and cadets in the reserve, to take part in solving Poland's most important social and economic problems, including essential technological progress. He strongly stressed that reserve officers' membership in the Armed Forces presents them with special duties toward the state and particular responsibility for the nation's fortunes. He said that an officer, including an officer in the reserve, means a law-abiding, bold, and disciplined person, one who stands out with an attitude befitting a soldier in a socialist army.

The significance of the cadre reserves is increasing even more in a situation where there is a sharp ideological and political battle. Referring to the aggressive actions of militarist NATO circles, especially the United States, to the growing power of revanchist circles in the FRG, and to the increasing political subversion and propaganda aggression being directed against socialism, Poland, and Poland's allies, General Siwicki pointed out the Army's tasks in this sphere, including those of the officers of the reserve.

The Armed Forces always feel, and right now are particularly feeling, the need to participate on a wider scale in the work of educating young people and shaping among them patriotic and internationalist attitudes, citizen-like responsibility, and a sense of duty and respect toward social norms of life and toward moral values.

Further on in his speech, General Siwicki spoke of the need to tighten contacts between military units and officers in the reserve, and stressed the bilateral importance of these contacts.

He highly praised the participation of reserve officers in the work of reserve officers clubs, the National Defense League, and other oganizations designed to educate young people in the spirit of defense.

On behalf of the head of the Armed Forces of the PPR, Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, F. Siwicki thanked the officers in the reserve for their daily toil and honestly-performed military service, and especially for their responsible performace of tasks during martial law.

Finally, F. Siwicki expressed the conviction that they will continue to contribute their efforts and capabilities to the great common cause of defending the country just as they have done up to now. He wished them further achievements in their professional and social work.

PRESS REVIEW: BEDNARSKI, ZSL DELEGATE COMMENTS

AU021415 Warsaw RZECZYWISTOSC in Polish 26 Feb 84 p 2

[Press Review: "Views and Opinions," including statements to other publications by Henryk Bednarski, PZPR Central Committee secretary, and Joanna Gil-Sleboda, a delegate to the Ninth ZSL Congress]

[Excerpts] Henryk Bednarski, PZPR Central Committee secretary, in an interview given to Wieslaw Rogowski for ARGUMENTY of 19 February 1984:

"I will not try to examine the question of whether pooh-poohing or overestimating the Polish people's national characteristics was a more important reason among the reasons for our past errors. However, I have to state again that not everything Polish -- not all our present characteristics and that which is still making an impact on the course of Polish affairs in an ideological, political, and social sense -- deserves to be regarded as highly as various values are. This is because, for example, political ignorance, submission to the influence of the ideologies that are inimical to our state's interests, and the frequent inclination to view the world in an irrational way are among those characteristics. In the same way, the absence of a genuine respect for the state as a national organization -- this absence is being purposefully promoted by our enemies -- is a destructive manifestation, except that it is now characteristic of only some groups of people.

"The general laws of socialist construction are always implemented under specific historical and national conditions. That is why the program for that construction and its implementation must always make allowances for those conditions and see all their determining factors -- those that favor the processes of changes and those that curb development. Yes, it is necessary to search for reasons that stimulate positive changes in people, to promote and utilize the traditions of social do-gooders, and to recognize the sense of national dignity as one of the feasible and important mainsprings of raising the ethics and moral principles in the conduct of individuals and communities, especially in the joint work for the good of socialist Poland. But to go into ecstasies over the 'national specifics,' to overestimate their worth, and to fail to see their negative aspects? No, we cannot agree to that. Socialism is not merely a concrete form of a certain stage in the development of a single nation. Socialism is above all a socioeconomic, sociocultural, and civilizing formation. It is impossible to speak of national socialism if it is without universal laws and without a sense of the community and unity of aims because there is simply no such socialism. Socialism is something much greater than that. Socialism is a much larger issue. It is simply an issue of all mankind, even though it is a concrete issue in its historical meaning and one that has its roots in concrete societies and nations."

Joanna Gil-Sleboda, a delegate to the Ninth ZSL Congress, in an interview given to Zbigniew Babiarz-Zych for ZBLIZENIA of 9 February 1984:

Babiarz-Zych: What do you expect of the coming ZSL Congress?

Gil-Sleboda: The ZSL is getting older. That is why we must rejuvenate it and adopt a program and become a party that would attract new members. I think that the ZSL's development has been so feeble because people feel that it is achieving very little and, above all, counts for little. The thing is that farmers want the ZSL to increasingly assert itself at the "top" and to throw off its shadow existence.

It should be noted that for some time now the ZSL has been treated in a different way and that a more favorable climate for it has developed. However, people's feelings have still not changed, because too many problems have still not been settled, but it is the unsolved problems that most effectively determine views about the ZSL and about any given organization for that matter. The ZSL must overcome this kind of helplessness after the congress; otherwise it will continue to get older and older.

JABLONSKI CHAIRS ZBOWID MEETING IN WARSAW

LD051517 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1300 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy [ZBOWID] is meeting in Warsaw.

This ex-servicemen's organization has more than 700,000 members. The subject of the meeting, which is being chaired by President of the ZBOWID Supreme Council and Chairman of the Council of State Henry Jablonski, is an assessment of the recently completed accountability-election campaign in the union and the confirmation of an organizational committee for the Seventh ZBOWID Congress which is to be held in Warsaw 7-8 May.

TRYBUNA LUDU ON CONTACTS WITH POLES ABROAD

AU051541 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 1 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] PAP -- A meeting of the Interministerial Commission for Relations with Poles Abroad on 29 February under the chairmanship of Stefan Olszowski, minister of foreign affairs, was devoted to discussing and arranging for activities with Poles abroad during the 40th anniversary of People's Poland. Tadeusz W. Lynczak, chairman of the Polonia Society, took part in the talks.

For over 3 years citizens of Polish descent in various countries, especially in the United States, have often been forced to choose between loyalty to their country of residence and feelings for their fatherland. This is the result of widescale anti-Polish propaganda which has distorted the picture of the PPR in the eyes of Poles abroad. However, thanks mainly to the progressing normalization in Poland, a process of rebuilding ties with circles of Poles abroad who are friendly toward us started in the latter half of 1982. This process escalated in 1983. The first weeks of this year are also bringing a broader tightening of contacts with Polish organizations and communities abroad, especially those in France, Belgium, and the FRG. In the United States as well, more and more circles of this largest community of Poles abroad are supporting the lifting of all restrictions against Poland and the restoration of normal relations between the United States and the PPR.

A major opportunity to normalize these relations will come with the traditional Polish celebrations abroad which this year fall on the 40th anniversary of People's Poland.

TRYBUNA LUDU: PZPR CONTACTS WITH OTHER CP'S

AU051320 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 2 Mar 84 p 6

[Eugeniusz Gajda article: "The PZPR in the International Communist Movement"]

[Text] Multifaceted fraternal cooperation between communist and workers parties based on the principles of proletarian internationalism has always been an unshakable canon in the activity of the PZPR. Right now, faced with the danger to the world's security presented by the aggressive forces of imperialism with the escalation of a monstrous arms race and with increased ideological subversion against the socialist countries and the international workers movement, a unity of action by communist parties is becoming even more important.

Expressing constant concern for the preservation of permanent ties with all communist parties, the PZPR gives particular attention to the development of multifaceted fraternal cooperation with the communist parties in the socialist countries. This is understandable when one considers that it is not only an ideological unity based on Marxist-Leninist teachings that joins us, but also the practical solving of complex problems involved in socialist construction and the use of mutual experience during this construction process.

It is noteworthy that during the most difficult times for Poland, the PZPR has been able to count on incontestable help and support from the fraternal parties. One should recall that during the height of the crisis in 1981, when Poland was not in a condition to perform its trade commitments with the socialist countries, our partners did in fact perform their contracts scrupulously, especially the Soviet Union. The USSR speeded up and increased supplies of many goods. USSR credits, especially those in convertible currency, were very important. Soviet aid played a decisive role in weakening the effects of the Reagan policy of economic restrictions.

Assessing the meaning of this aid, Wojciech Jaruzelski, PZPR Central Committee first secretary, wrote the following in an article published last year in PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM: "We are sincerely grateful to the CPSU and to the other fraternal parties for the considerable economic aid, especially the Soviet aid; we are grateful for their support on the international forum, and, last but not least, we are greateful for what is exceptionally valuable to communists -- for their confidence in us and in the road we are following."

Meetings and talks between Wojciech Jaruzelski, PZPR Central Committee first secretary, and the leaders of fraternal parties have played an important role in strengthening confidence between the PZPR and the fraternal parties. These meetings and talks have encouraged a better understanding of our situation.

Increasingly closer contacts at various levels between the PZPR and the fraternal parties in the socialist countries have also served to strengthen confidence. Workers contacts, educational visits by various groups as part of party exchange programs, and joint seminars such as the recent Polish-Soviet seminar on counteracting imperialist propaganda play an important role in exchanging information and experiences.

However, as far as our relations with the communist parties in nonsocialist countries are concerned, the firm majority of these fraternal parties understand the difficult decisions made by the PZPR. They have expressed their understanding in resolutions during their congresses and in other documents. Only in some parties does a lack of understanding for our stance continue. Some parties have differing assessments of Polish affairs. With the exception of the Netherlands Communist Party, which does not maintain relations with our party, contacts at various levels of animation exist with all parties. Last year there was a clear growth of interest in spreading these contacts. This should encourage better mutual understanding and a strengthening of confidence.

Our party has confidence in and a full understanding for the strategy and tactics of other communist parties such as the French, Finnish, and Italian Communist Parties. We, therefore, have the right to expect our friends to have confidence in and understand our strategy and tactics in defending socialism in our country.

We are fully aware of the huge pressure being brought to bear on society by the bourgeois mass media. This does not facilitate the shaping of objective views on the processes occurring in the world, especially in the socialist countries. The politics of the bourgeoisie, designed to break up the workers movement and weaken the influence of the communist parties in its own countries, is helped by speculations about splits in the workers movement and by an exaggeration of these splits.

The PZPR has expressed many times its stance on a mutual respect for every party's right to choose the best strategy and tactics for building socialism and on the struggle for the rights of the masses working in capitalist countries. This is our party's principled stance, confirmed by practical activity in the international communist movement of many years' standing. We base our assessment of every party on its documents and reports. We want this principle to be normal practice toward us as well: We want to be assessed on the basis of documents adopted by party cells, especially by the Central Committee, and on the basis of practical activity that serves to implement the goals set by the party.

We do not wish to and we cannot force any party to assess our policy, but we have the justified right for these assessments to be based on authentic sources and not on simplified, distorted, and even falsified reports.

Our party has made and is still making much effort in objectively and fully informing all communist and workers parties about the complex and complicated processes that have taken place and are taking place in Poland, about our activity to overcome the crisis, and about the development of socialist construction. This effort has been backed by letters conveyed to the leaderships of these parties, which explain and discuss the meaning and purpose of more important decisions, such as the introduction of martial law, the suspension and lifting of martial law, the trade union laws, and other decisions. The meaning and purpose of PZPR policy have also been the subject of talks and meetings with delegations from the fraternal parties.

Mutual contacts between the communist parties and the constant deepening and strengthening of these contacts have settled and should settle questions, remarks, and doubts, and should serve better understanding and mutual confidence.

TRADE WITH CEMA NATIONS CONTINUES AS SCHEDULED

LD051746 Warsaw in Russian to the USSR 1100 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Last year Poland's trade exchange with the socialist countries surpassed the level that existed in the precrisis period. Today, all the evidence is that this year the positive trends will be fully maintained. A trade protocol between Poland and the GDR was signed in Warsaw recently: It was the latest in a series of agreements defining the dimensions and structure of our exchange with our socialist partners for this year.

Certain general conclusions can be drawn about this. Poland's turnover level with the CEMA countries as a whole will go up by about 13 percent. This is a high rate, particularly if you bear in mind that an increase in industrial output of 4.5 percent is planned in Poland this year. Our turnovers with the majority of our partners will be balanced. Only our trade with the Soviet Union will remain in deficit: about R700 million. As in former years, our major partner will make up this current account deficit with low-interest credit repayable over a number of years. In this way, the Soviet Union continues to help us effectively to achieve economic equilibrium.

Let us now take a look at what the structure of turnovers, as stipulated in this year's protocols, is like. First, a few words about Polish exports: It is quite clear that the growth of exports is very important for us today. However, the point is also which branches of production for export can be developed intensively today. This year, Poland will sell its partners the same amount of raw materials as last year. It will be coal and sulfur, above all. The growth in deliveries of Polish goods will mainly involve means of production: construction equipment, machines, equipment, and installations. We have large and not fully-utilized production capacities in this sphere. One should also mention ships, machine-tools, and equipment for power-generation; the chemical industry; and the sugar industry.

An important and considerable place in our exports is occupied by various deliveries within the framework of cooperation. This primarily concerns components and subassemblies for motor-vehicle manufacture and electronics, as well as components for construction machines.

Let us turn to imports of goods from the CEMA countries to Poland. Which of them are today the most essential for our country? Above all they are raw and other materials. A prime role in deliveries of raw material is of course played by our Soviet partner. This year, raw fuel material will constitute almost 70 percent of our total import volume from the USSR. As far as the import of finished products is concerned, it includes agricultural equipment, as well as machines and machine tools for light industry. For instance, this year we will buy tractors from the USSR, Czechoslovakia, and for the first time, Bulgaria. Land reclamation equipment for agriculture will also come from Bulgaria. We import looms and knitting machines, as well as machines for the footwear industry, from the GDR, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary.

There is a shortage of a large number of construction materials in Poland at the moment, so goods being imported include, among others, Bulgarian glazed tiles and insulating materials and Romanian reinforcement iron [armatura], mineral wool, and ceramic components. Another example is rubber tires for various vehicles, of which there is a great shortage in the Polish transportation industry today. This year, we will take delivery of tires from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Romania.

Finally, consumer goods: Many goods purchased from the CEMA countries are in high demand on our as-yet-uncopious market. What will be on sale this year? Soviet color televisions, refrigerators, watches, clocks, and bicycles; Czechoslovak automatic washing machines, furniture, and footwear; Bulgarian fabrics, knitted goods, and foodstuffs; Romanian furniture, cars, and wines; GDR electrical goods, linen, and carpets; and Hungarian footwear, leather goods, and furniture. As had been envisaged, in January and February, goods exchange between Poland and its socialist partners proceeded at a regular pace. The revival of contacts of trade enterprises and organizations since the beginning of the year even make it possible to count on an overfulfillment of plans for deliveries.

SOVIET JOURNALISTS MEET PZPR OFFICIALS

AU051529 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 1 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] PAP -- A group of Soviet journalists representing the leading Soviet dailies and weeklies visited Poland from 20 to 29 February at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to familiarize themselves with Poland's cultural affairs in connection with the "Days of Polish Culture" being organized to take place in April in the Soviet Union.

The journalists were received by T. Czechowicz, PZPR Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Lodz Voivodship PZPR Committee; W. Swirgon, PZPR Central Committee secretary; Professor B. Suchodolski, chairman of the National Culture Council; and Minister of Culture and Art K. Zygulski. They also met with the PZPR Central Committee.

They made many direct, friendly contacts by meeting with leaders of artists unions and visiting artists workshops. They had meetings with journalists from the Association of Polish Journalists and the editors of TRYBUNA LUDU and PRZYJAZN.

At the end of their visit, the Soviet journalists were received by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs J. Wiejacz.

LUXEMBOURG PARLIAMENTARIANS MEET OFFICIALS

Interview With Giosan

AU011419 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1411 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 1/3/1984 -- The chairman of the Grand National Assembly, Nicolae Giosan, had an interview on March 1 with the parliamentary delegation of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, led by Leon Bolendorff, president of the Chamber of Deputies. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the positive course of the Romanian-Luxembourg relations which have witnessed steady development especially after the summit meetings, and pointed to the contribution the parliaments and parliamentarians in Romania and Luxembourg can make to strengthening and diversifying the relations between the two countries in various domains of joint interest. Opinions were also exchanged on aspects of the current world political situation, the wish being reiterated to strengthen the cooperation between the two parliaments within the Inter-Parliamentary Union to the end of promoting peace and cooperation in Europe and throughout the world.

Andrei Receives Delegation

AU051620 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1606 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 5/3/1984 -- Stefan Andrei, Romanian minister of foreign affairs, had an interview on Monday, March 5, with a parliamentary delegation of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, led by Leon Bolendorff, president of the Chamber of Deputies. During the talk, the fine relations of friendship and collaboration were recalled extant between the two countries, and the mutual wish was highlighted to further work for the more powerful development of the Romanian-Luxembourg relations. Views were also exchanged on current aspects of the international political life, with emphasis on questions related to the cessation of the arms race and first and foremost to nuclear disarmament in Europe.

The same day, the delegation conducted talks with executives of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation.

OPREA, PUNGAN MEET BOSNIAN ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN

AU051621 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1600 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 5/3/1984 -- Talks were conducted in Bucharest on Monday March 5 between Romanian First Deputy Prime Minister Gheorghe Oprea and Seid Maglajlija, president of the Executive Council of the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina. Satisfaction was expressed during the talks at the upward course and manysided expansion of the relations between Romania and Yugoslavia, and a series of domains were examined providing conditions for the development of the economic, technical, scientific and cultural collaboration between Romania and the Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina. Both sides expressed their determination to further work for increasing mutual goods deliveries and amplify cooperation in other domains, assessing that the sustained promotion of bilateral cooperation was beneficial to both countries and peoples, to their progress and prosperity, to the cause of socialism and peace.

The same day, the delegation of the Executive Council of the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina had talks with Vasile Pungan, minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, and Ion Stanescu, minister, head of the department for construction operations abroad.

SUNDIC ON CHERNENKO SPEECH, U.S. RESPONSE

LD052032 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] The election speech by Konstantin Chernenko, CPSU general secretary, has aroused the special attention of the international public. An exceptionally quick and favorable reaction from Washington followed. For the time being, however, there are no indications about possible new proposals by the United States which would lead to a revival of dialogue between the two superpowers. Here is Milika Sundic:

Konstantin Chernenko's speech on the eve of the elections for the Supreme Soviet, held yesterday, has been understood in Washington as an invitation to a dialogue on controversial problems between the two superpowers. Though Chernenko's accusations about the United States alone being responsible for the present crisis in international relations are not accepted, it seems, nevertheless, that they are not taken too seriously. In the U.S. reaction to Chernenko's speech, there are no concrete indications about what should be done to start the dialogue between Moscow and Washington but, judging from reports in the U.S. press, the White House is thinking about it.

The United States acknowledges that except for the agreement on the purchase of U.S. wheat, not a single significant agreement has been reached with the Soviet Union in the past 3 years. Therefore, the U.S. reaction to Chernenko's speech has been restricted to proving the assertion that the Soviet Union has also understood that the revival of the dialogue between the two countries does not depend exclusively on the conduct of the Reagan administration. Thus, for instance, George Shultz quotes one of Reagan's statements in which the U.S. President said that the United States is ready to start negotiations with Moscow in an attempt to create constructive relations between the two countries. The quoting of Reagan's statement shows the desire to create the impression that it is in fact the United States which had, some considerable time before Chernenko's speech, addressed an invitation to Moscow, an invitation which did not essentially differ from Chernenko's readiness to improve relations between the two superpowers.

The U.S. reaction, however, does not contain a direct reference to Chernenko's doubts about the sincerity of Reagan's statements in which the Soviet Union is called upon to accept the peaceful invitations of the U.S. Administration. Let us recall that Chernenko insisted on concrete proof: that the United States should ratify the treaty limiting underground nuclear tests, that it should conclude a treaty banning the militarization of space, that it accept the proposal on the freeze of nuclear weapons and, last, that it should bind itself not to use chemical weapons.

Of the four demands mentioned, the third one -- the freeze on nuclear weapons -- is the most controversial for the United States because it believes that it would legitimize the existing Soviet advantage in this respect. Consequently, the United States could not be ready at this point in time to bind itself to limit underground nuclear tests, either. There are, however, good prospects for Washington accepting the dialogue on the destruction of means of chemical warfare, among other things, also because the U.S. Congress has restricted resources for this purpose. This would perhaps not be enough to win Moscow over for the resumption of Geneva negotiations on Euromissiles and the reduction in strategic nuclear weapons, though even such a step by the U.S. side would contribute to a thaw in the climate of relations between the two superpowers. In any case, the conviction prevails that both sides are working on this and that Reagan's administration will not stop merely at superficially emphasizing the significance of Chernenko's election speech at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses.

SPILJAK CABLES THANKS TO EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT

LD272217 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2106 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, February 27 (TANJUG) -- On leaving Egypt at the end of state visit, Mika Spiljak, president of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, has sent a telegram to President Husni Mubarak of Egypt, emphasizing that the talks he had in Cairo were very useful and successful and contributed to a further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. These talks will also contribute to strengthening peace and security in the world as well as to promoting the role of the movement of the non-aligned countries to which the two countries are full attached, the telegram says, among other things.

President Spiljak also thanked the people and Government of Egypt as well as President Mubarak personally for their hospitality and friendship accorded to him during his just finished visit.

COMMUNIQUE, STATEMENT ON SPILJAK'S VISITS

YAR Communique

LD290034 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2321 GMT 28 Feb 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Sana'a', February 28 (TANJUG) -- In a communique issued today, Tuesday, at the end of Yugoslav Presidency President Mike Spiljak's visit to the Yemen Arab Republic, the two countries express their concern at the deterioration of the international situation. Spiljak and President 'Ali Abdallah Salih noted that bloc rivalry was mounting, that there was no trust between the big powers and that force and pressures were being resorted to increasingly frequently. The international situation is further exacerbated by the arms race, the absence of any dialogue and the failure to deal with the fundamental political and economic problems of the present-day world, they said.

Spiljak and Salih assessed that, in this situation, the Movement of Nonalignment is the only alternative to the bloc division of the world and that it offers solutions for crucial international problems. They underscored the importance of the nonaligned policy as an independent and irreplaceable non-bloc factor. They reaffirmed the authentic principles of the movement and underscored the need to strengthen its unity and action capability.

Yugoslavia and the Yemen Arab Republic supported a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Middle East crisis which implies Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the realisation of the Palestinian People's legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination and the creation of its own state at the national territory.

The two sides agreed that it is necessary that the PLO, as the only independent and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, should participate in the solving of the Middle East crisis. They also pointed to the need for preserving PLO's unity and independent decision-making and activity.

The joint communique also underlines the importance of the realisation of national unity, independence, sovereignty and national integrity of Lebanon. The pre-requisite for this is the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territory of Lebanon, it is said.

Yugoslavia and the Yemen Arab Republic supported all initiatives and actions conducive to a peaceful ending of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the settling of all questions in dispute through direct negotiations, on the basis of the principles of the policy of nonalignment, the U.N. Charter and the honouring of the legitimate rights and interests of both sides.

They pointed to the need for further mediation efforts, primarily by the Nonaligned Movement, towards a peaceful and early ending of this conflict.

Yugoslavia and the Yemen Arab Republic also came out for the establishment of zones of peace in world's crisis regions, which would substantially contribute to the relaxation of tension in international relations. In this context they mentioned in particular the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.

Pointing to the unfavourable development of international economic relations and the difficult position of the developing countries in particular, Yugoslavia and the Yemen Arab Republic underlined the need for urgent and concrete efforts by the nonaligned countries for establishing a new international economic order.

The development of bilateral relations was assessed as successful. Both sides expressed readiness to take appropriate measures to promote their cooperation in various fields, including economy, science, technology, culture, health and information.

Statement on PDRY Visit

GF011820 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Joint statement on the conclusion of the visit by Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, to the PDRY issued in Aden on 1 March -- read by announcer]

[Text] At the invitation of Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, undertook a cordial and friendly visit to the PDRY from 28 February to 1 March 1984.

Those who took part in the talks on the Yemeni side were: Comrade Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and foreign affairs minister; Comrade 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, member of the Central Committee and candidate for the post of industry minister; Comrade Muhammad Haydarah Masdus, PDRY nonresident ambassador in Belgrade; Comrade 'Ali Munassar Muhammad, director of socialist Europe affairs at the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and Comrade Jamal Salih Muhammad from the socialist countries department at the YSP Central Committee.

The SFRY side included Comrade Rade Pavlovic, Energy and Industry Committee president; Nusret Seferovic, SFRY nonresident ambassador to the PDRY; Comrade (?Zivojin) Jazic, the president's adviser for political affairs; and Comrade Dusan Litvinovic, director of the Near East and North Africa Office at the Foreign Affairs Secretariat.

Comrades 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Mika Spiljak held official talks that were dominated by common friendship and understanding. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with the friendship, with the cooperation that exists between the two friendly countries, and with their joint desire to develop these relations in the various fields and to expand them in the interest of the two countries. Other issues of common interest were also discussed.

Comrade Mika Spiljak praised the economic social and cultural developments which are being attained in the PDRY under the leadership of the YSP in the direction of achieving the huge goals of the national democratic revolution.

He also highly praised the constant and principled policy of the PDRY, which is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and national solidarity.

The Yemeni side apprised the Yugoslav side of the efforts which are being undertaken by the leadership of the two sides of Yemen to restore Yemeni unity peacefully and on democratic bases. Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad praised the success attained by the friendly Yugoslav people under the LCY leadership in the framework of the socialist society. He also asserted the Yugoslav solidarity stances toward the fateful Arab issues, its participation in supporting the liberation movements in the world, and its outstanding role in the framework of the Nonaligned Movement.

While reviewing the current international developments, the two sides expressed their extreme worry over the tension that prevails in the international situation and the genuine effect of this situation on international peace and stability. The two sides called for reinforcing international security and enhancing cordial rapprochement as well as for ensuring the people's rights to freedom, and to choose their independent method of development, for respecting their sovereignty and independence, and for developing international cooperation on an equal footing through equal rights. The two sides also paid special attention to the tense situation in the Middle East region which emanates from the Israeli expansionist and aggressive policy, which is backed by the imperialist powers.

The two comrades announced their conviction that a just and permanent peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without a comprehensive and just settlement to the Middle East problem based on the total withdrawl of the Israeli forces from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and by guaranteeing the Arab Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to establish their independent national state on their national soil. The two sides reaffirmed their support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and stressed the importance of safeguarding the PLO's unity and the independence of its national decision and of confronting the plans which aim at the liquidation of the Palestinian issue.

While reviewing the current developments in Lebanon, the two sides demanded the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the Lebanese territories and a guarantee of Lebanon's sovereignty, the unity of its lands, and the achievement of national reconciliation.

Regarding the developments of the situation in the Gulf region, the peninsula, and the Horn of Africa, the SFRY side affirmed the importance of Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's initiative to hold a summit conference of the Gulf and the peninsula countries, the Horn of Africa, and other concerned sides, in order to keep the region free of foreign military presence and to set up the basis of permanent peace and stability there.

The two sides stressed the importance of exerting efforts to turn the Indian Ocean into a region of peace.

About the Iraq-Iran war, the two sides expressed their concern over its continuation and stressed the importance of reaching a just and quick settlement by peaceful means and through negotiations which will serve the interests of the two fraternal peoples. They also supported the peaceful efforts to solve the diferences between the two.

The two sides affirmed their commitment to the principles and goals of the Nonaligned Movement and the importance of achieving stronger cooperation among its members. They pointed out the movement's great role in international relations and in the struggle to achieve international security and peace and to establish a new international economic policy.

The two sides also stressed the importance of implementing the recommendations of the Seventh Summit Conference of the Nonaligned Movement ountries. The two sides highly evaluated the results of the visit and its great contribution in resuming the strengthening of the friendship and developing the fruitful cooperation between the PDRY and SFRY. During the visit, an economic cooperation protocol was signed between the two countries.

Comrade Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, expressed his deep gratitude to the PDRY leadership and people for the hospitality and welcome which he and his companions received during their visit to the PDRY. He invited Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to pay an official and amicable visit to the SFRY. The invitation was accepted and its date will be fixed later.

ZAGREB MEETING VIEWS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, ABUSES

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[Text] Zagreb, 5 Mar (TANJUG) -- Our society respects different views and convictions provided they are not ideologized or politicized because we have convinced ourselves in practice that this is not an obstacle to people committing themselves to the program of struggle for lasting socialist and humane values and goals through basic forms of organization and activity and through the delegate system. Equal rights and duties of the working people and citizens, regardless of their ideological orientations, are not only guaranteed by the Constitution but are being realized with growing success. This was stated at the consultative meeting on social issues of religion and on the activity of religious communities held in Zagreb today and organized by the city conference of Zagreb Socialist Alliance.

The meeting was attended by scientific, specialized, and sociopolitical workers of the city. Twenty religious communities are said to be operating in Zagreb.

In the debate at the meeting, it was stressed that our Constitution has fairly clearly regulated the issue of religion and of religious communities and that according to it, the profession of religion belongs to human freedoms and rights and is treated as one's private affair. The principled attitude of our society as contained in the Constitution -- that the church is separated from the state -- was also reiterated and emphasized. Therefore, as stressed, religious interests and needs are respected only when they are not politicized.

It was said in the debate, however, that some individuals do not demonstrate enough readiness to coordinate their activity and conduct with constitutional principles. The church demonstrates a clear tendency of politicization and the desire to impose itself as a political factor. Abuse of religion for political purposes, clericalism, is most frequently manifested through equating religious affiliations with national ones and through the attempt to speak both on behalf of believers as well as on behalf of a nation. Such tendency is demonstrated, as stated, in Zagreb particularly by the Catholic Church, which is represented by most of the religious communities in the city.

In the debate, the participants of the meeting also pointed out that sectarian attitudes toward religious communities are also harmful phenomena that hinder normal implementation of the constitutional provisions on the freedom of religion.